



TEXAS A&M ATHLETICS

**STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK
2024-2025**

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Each student-athlete has a responsibility to be fully acquainted with and comply with Texas A&M University Student Rules as well as Texas A&M Athletics Department policies and procedures. Specific rules information and procedures have been clearly outlined in this handbook and its Appendices.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY MISSION, PURPOSE, VALUES, & POLICIES

Texas A&M University Mission Statement

Texas A&M University is dedicated to the discovery, development, communication, and application of knowledge in a wide range of academic and professional fields. Its mission of providing the highest quality undergraduate and graduate programs is inseparable from its mission of developing new understandings through research and creativity. It prepares students to assume roles in leadership, responsibility and service to society. Texas A&M assumes as its historic trust the maintenance of freedom of inquiry and an intellectual environment nurturing the human mind and spirit. It welcomes and seeks to serve persons of all racial, ethnic and geographic groups as it addresses the needs of an increasingly diverse population and a global economy. In the 21st century, Texas A&M University seeks to assume a place of preeminence among public universities while respecting its history and traditions.

Texas A&M University Purpose Statement

Our purpose is to develop leaders of character dedicated to serving the greater good.

Texas A&M University Core Values

Our core values unify our current and former students, faculty and staff. They are guideposts we live by and show in our words and deeds. We are a community of problem-solvers, scholars and creators with a service mission.



Respect

We believe people matter. We value and treat ourselves and others with care, compassion, dignity, civility and fairness. We appreciate, learn from and create a welcoming and inclusive environment that values uniqueness, diversity and a sense of community.



Excellence

We are dedicated to excel in what we do and say we will do, and we continually strive to improve. We are passionate about delivering results and achieving desired outcomes, impact and value that exceeds expectations – of our own and of others.



Leadership

We set the example. We embody our values. We are courageous and forward thinking, embracing change and propelling ourselves and the University. We unify, inspire and empower each other.



Loyalty

We are dedicated to a greater purpose. We trust, respect and support each other. We are stronger and better together because of our shared support of the University.



Integrity

We are trustworthy and honest with ourselves and others. We honor and follow through on commitments and expectations, holding ourselves and others accountable for our actions, behaviors and outcomes. We operate with the highest ethical standards in all we do.



Selfless Service

We are part of a global community and purpose that is bigger than ourselves. We work with and help others to have a positive impact; and, we do so without expectation of recognition or reward.

Texas A&M University Rules & Policy Resources

Each individual student is expected to read the university handbook carefully and observe its requirements. “Particular attention should be given to the **Aggie Code of Honor**, the **University Statement on Harassment and Discrimination** and the **Students’ Rights and Responsibilities**. No rule, no matter how carefully worded, can cover all eventualities completely. Beyond specific rules, we should all aspire to conduct ourselves with respect for others, the highest ethical standards, and personal integrity. That is what the Aggie Spirit is all about.” (<https://student-rules.tamu.edu/>)

The *Texas A&M University Student Rules* are broken down into three sections, with additional information provided in the appendixes:

- **Part I: Academic Rules** (Rules 1 – 22 & 61)
- **Part II: Student Life Rules** (Rules 23 – 44)
- **Part III: Student Grievance Procedures** (Rules 45 – 60)
- **Appendices**
- **Aggie Honor System Office**
- **Office of Rules and Regulatory Compliance**
- **Residence Life & University Apartments Handbooks**
- **Texas A&M University System Policy Manual**
- **The Standard of the Corps of Cadets**
- **Texas A&M Gameday & Tailgating Rules** <https://12thman.com/sports/2020/6/15/tailgating-in-aggieland.aspx>

For more detailed information, visit the Student Conduct Office website located at <https://studentlife.tamu.edu/sco>

Aggie Honor Code

Integrity is a fundamental core value of Texas A&M University. Academic integrity requires a commitment by all faculty, students, and administrators to:

- Remain constantly focused on the quality of the academic programs
- Achieve and maintain academic excellence in all courses and programs to assure the value of Texas A&M University degrees
- Demand high academic standards from all members of the Aggie community.

All Texas A&M University students, graduate and undergraduate, part-time or full-time, in residence or in distance education, are expected to follow the guiding rule of the Aggie Honor Code: “An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do.” For more on the Aggie Honor Code and definitions of misconduct please visit **this link**.

University Statement For Individuals With Disabilities

Texas A&M University (TAMU) is committed to maintaining an accessible campus community and providing reasonable accommodations to qualified students, faculty, staff and visitors, including making its web sites accessible and usable. Texas A&M University does not discriminate on the basis of an individual's disability and complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as amended. Students are protected from discrimination regarding access to and participation in Texas A&M's programs and activities. Texas A&M provides academic adjustments and auxiliary aides to accommodate needs of students with disabilities, as defined under the law, who are otherwise qualified to meet the institution's academic requirements.

University Statement On Harassment And Discrimination

Texas A&M is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, Texas A&M encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality, diversity, pluralism and the uniqueness of the individual within our state, nation and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees should be based on applicable law and individual merit.

Texas A&M University, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status in employment, educational programs, and admissions.

Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the Department of Civil Rights & Equity Investigations:

Jennifer Smith, Associate Vice President and Title IX Coordinator

Department of Civil Rights & Equity Investigations

Email: jennifer.smith@tamu.edu or civilrights@tamu.edu

Phone: **979-458-8407**

Location: YMCA Building, Suite 108

Discrimination

TAMU provides equal opportunity to all employees, students, applicants for employment or admission, and the public regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. TAMU will promptly investigate all complaints of discrimination, sexual harassment, and related retaliation in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.

Sexual Harassment Policy

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal, non-verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when this conduct is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it explicitly or implicitly affects an individual's employment, unreasonably interferes with an individual's work or educational performance, or creates an intimidating or hostile work, educational, or campus living environment.

Texas A&M Athletics is committed to providing an environment of athletics participation and employment free from sexual harassment (including sexual violence) and discrimination to all segments of its community and supports a safe and respectful academic, working, and living environment.

If you believe you or someone has been subjected to (1) sexual harassment by a University faculty or staff member, student, or TAMU visitor; or (2) any other form of sex-based discrimination under Title IX, report such misconduct or file a formal complaint with the University's Title IX Coordinator Jennifer Smith by emailing civilrights@tamu.edu or by contacting Jennifer Smith directly (full contact information included above).

For additional resources; reporting options; or information about applicable laws, university rules and procedures, options available for resolution of complaints, and confidentiality requirements, please visit the [Title IX website: https://titleix.tamu.edu/](https://titleix.tamu.edu/).

Hazing & Organization Affiliation Misconduct

Organization Affiliation Misconduct means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off any campus of Texas A&M University, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against an individual for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in an organization; or as part of any activity of a recognized student organization, student group, Corps of Cadets, Corps outfit, Corps unit, Corps Special Activities, or Athletics that meets the criteria of: 24.4.5.1. Hazing; and/or 24.4.5.2. Organization-Related Intimidation and/or Abuse.

A student is responsible for Organization Affiliation Misconduct if the student:

- Engages in Organization Affiliation Misconduct;
- Solicits, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in engaging in Organization Affiliation Misconduct;
- Recklessly permits Organization Affiliation Misconduct to occur; or
- Has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a specific Organization Affiliation Misconduct incident involving a student or has firsthand knowledge that a specific Organization Affiliation Misconduct incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report that knowledge to the Vice President for Student Affairs or other appropriate official of the institution, a peace officer, or a law enforcement agency.

There are two types of Organization Affiliation Misconduct, based on the conduct and potential resulting harm:

Hazing is Organization Affiliation Misconduct that includes:

- Any type of physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity;
- Sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, calisthenics, or other similar activity that subjects the individual to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the individual;

- Consumption of a food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, liquor, drug, or other substance, other than as described by 24.4.5.1.5., that subjects the individual to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the individual;
- Any activity that induces, causes, or requires the individual to perform a duty or task that involves a violation of a criminal law or university rule that implicates a criminal law; or
- Coercion of the individual to consume:
 - a drug; or
 - an alcoholic beverage or liquor in an amount that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the individual is intoxicated.
 - “Coercion” means a threat, however communicated, to commit a violation of a criminal law or university rule that implicates a criminal law; inflict bodily injury in the future on the person threatened or another; accuse a person of any criminal offense or violation of university rule; expose a person to hatred, contempt, or ridicule; harm the credit or professional reputation of any person; or take or withhold action as a public servant, or to cause a public servant to take or withhold action.

Conduct constituting Hazing may also be a violation of Texas state law (see Tex. Educ. Code §37.151 and §51.936).

Organization-Related Intimidation and/or Abuse is Organization Affiliation Misconduct that does not rise to the level of Hazing and includes, but is not limited to:

- Conduct that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of the individual
- Behavior that is severe and/or persistent to a degree that a reasonable person similarly situated would be prevented from accessing an educational opportunity or benefit. This behavior includes, but is not limited to, verbal abuse, deceit, threats, intimidation, and unreasonable requirements for new and continued membership of an organization;
- Confining a person or exposing participants to uncomfortable elements such as environments that are too hot, cold, noisy, small, or intimidating;
- Parading individuals in public areas, transporting individuals in a motor vehicle while wearing a visual obstruction, or privately conducting visually obstructed activities that serve no constructive purpose;
- Encouraging or requiring a person to publicly carry objects or wear apparel that is abnormal, not normally in good taste, conspicuous, and/or indecent;
- Destroying or removing public or private property;
- Any activity that induces, causes, or requires the individual to perform a duty or task that involves a violation of a university rule that does not implicate a criminal law;
- Soliciting, encouraging, directing, aiding, or attempting to aid another in engaging in intimidation or harassment; or
- Assisting, directing, or in any way causing others to participate in degrading behavior and/or behavior that causes ridicule, humiliation, or embarrassment.

Previously practiced “traditions” (including Corps of Cadets, fraternity/sorority, or any other group or organization activity, practice or tradition) or coercion by current or former members or student leaders of the involved organization, will not suffice as a justifiable reason for participation in Organization Affiliation Misconduct. It is not a defense that the person (or group) against whom the Organization Affiliation Misconduct was directed consented or acquiesced to the behavior in question.

Students who are recipients and/or victims of Organization Affiliation Misconduct and who have not perpetrated Organization Affiliation Misconduct on others involved in the fact pattern for which they are reporting, and who report the activities to the Vice President for Student Affairs or designee responsible for oversight of the student conduct processes and/or the University Police Department, will not be charged with a violation of the Organization Affiliation Misconduct rule.

The Organization Affiliation Misconduct rule is not intended to prohibit the following conduct:

- Customary public athletic events, contests, or competitions that are sponsored by the University or the organized and supervised practices associated with such events; or
- Any activity or conduct that furthers the goals of a legitimate educational curriculum, a legitimate extracurricular program or a legitimate military training program as defined and approved by the University.

ORGANIZATION INCIDENT REPORTING

If you have observed the activities of a student organization and you feel that the organization is violating the terms of its constitution or by-laws, student or university rules, or the law, complete [this form](#) to report the issue to the Department of Student Activities. Representatives from the department will follow up on any issues reported through this form and address them as needed.

Hazing is also a violation of Texas state law. See the Texas Education Code, sections [37.151](#) and [51.936](#) (<http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.37.htm#37.151> and <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.51.htm#51.936>) and/or Appendix VI of the Student Rules (<https://student-rules.tamu.edu/append6/>)

Campus Safety

University Police

Texas A&M [University Police Department](#) (UPD) provides law enforcement and security services to all components of TAMU including campus and a variety of satellite facilities throughout Brazos County. The department maintains a fully staffed investigations division, a crime prevention unit, a recruiting unit, a training division, and an Emergency Communications Center.

Support Links

Tell Somebody website--As a member of this University community, if you observe any behavior that is concerning you may report the behavior using the **online report form** or by contacting one of the Special Situations Team members during business hours. The **Special Situations Team** is comprised of University faculty and staff charged with helping students, faculty and staff who are exhibiting concerning behavior.

Emergency Blue-Light Phones

There are 115 emergency phones located throughout the TAMU campus. These phones are easily visible and identifiable by a 12-foot pole with a blue light on top. These phones have "Emergency" written on the front and sides. These phones will put you into direct contact with 9-1-1 operators.

Corps Escort

The Corps of Cadets provides a free 24-hour escort service. To request an escort simply call the Guard Room (845-6789), and a Corps member will meet the person requesting the escort and walk with him/her to most central on-campus locations (e.g., resident halls, parking lots, etc.)

International Students

For those who may be from another country and attending Texas A&M, it is important to be aware of and understand the importance of personal safety and what resources are available. This includes you, your family, where you live and where you frequent. The best way to be safe is to develop good personal safety practices that include safeguarding your residence, dealing with people in public or on the phone, or staying safe when at home, on the road or on campus.

Studying Abroad

When in another country, it is hard to plan for every possible situation, so students studying abroad must rely upon experience and judgment when an unexpected situation arises.

Things to keep in mind:

- Make sure that you have sufficient health and accident insurance for the entire period you are out of the U.S.
- Use your common sense. Be cautious and keep your wits about you, just as you would in any large or unfamiliar city.
- Before you travel, you should check with your doctor about inoculations that you may need for where you are going. If you take prescription medication, have an ample supply for your entire stay and make sure that all medication (including over-the-counter drugs) is clearly labeled and in its original container.

Emergency Procedures

How safe a person is depends, in part, on his/her preparation and how much attention he/she pays to his/her surroundings. The university offers several programs to help keep students, staff, and faculty safe. An emergency is an unexpected serious situation, demanding immediate action, and can include situations that threaten your personal safety, such as: Active Shooter, Bomb Threat, Campus-wide Bomb Threat, Concerning Behavior, or Suspicious Letter/Package. For more information on these situations and more please visit <https://www.tamu.edu/emergency/procedures/personalSafety.html>

TAMU utilizes CODEMAROON to alert students, staff and faculty about any emergency situation on or near campus. Visit <https://codemarooon.tamu.edu/>, be sure to keep the information updated so any alerts issued are received.

Active Shooter

An active shooter is defined as one or more subjects who actively engage in killing or causing life-threatening injuries to multiple people in a confined and populated area. Active shooter situations are dynamic, evolve quickly, and often end before law enforcement arrives at the scene. How a person responds to an active shooter will be dictated by the specific circumstances of the encounter. In an

active shooter situation, try to remain as calm as possible and use these suggested actions to help develop a strategy for survival.

For links to safety videos on how to survive an active shooter situation, please visit <https://upd.tamu.edu/Pages/Safety-Videos.aspx>. Note: university NetID and password are required to view some videos.

In the middle of an active shooter incident, survival may depend on whether or not there is a plan. The plan doesn't have to be complicated. There are three things people can do that make a difference: Run. Hide. Fight.

Bomb Threat

A bomb threat is generally defined as a verbal or written threat to detonate an explosive or incendiary device to cause property damage, injuries, or loss of life whether or not such a device actually exists.

Two main reasons someone may call with a bomb threat:

- The person knows of an explosive device that is in place and wants to minimize injuries.
- The person wants to create an environment of panic/confusion or to interrupt normal office/building functions.

Severe Weather

Severe weather is defined as any aspect of the weather which can pose a threat to life and property. These threats include Severe Thunderstorms, Lightning, Tornadoes, and Severe Winter Weather.

If severe weather threatens, you should:

- Follow instructions as provided by your department/university;
- Listen to radio and television for weather updates; and
- Check with media for return-to-work status.

Evacuation or Shelter-in-Place

In some emergency situations, such as flooding or release of hazardous materials, emergency responders may order protective actions for persons who live or work on campus. Typically, these protective actions are to evacuate to a safer area or to shelter-in-place. It is possible that some emergency scenarios could result in one of these protective actions being ordered for one part of campus and the other protective action for a different area of campus. When such actions are warranted, you will be appropriately advised by police, fire, safety, or university officials via radio and television stations and the Emergency Alert System, public address systems, loudspeakers, door-to-door notifications, Code Maroon, or other appropriate means.

For more information on Emergency Preparedness follow link: <https://www.tamu.edu/emergency/>



SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE MISSION, SPORTSMANSHIP, & ETHICAL CONDUCT

Mission Statement

The SEC's mission statement reflects the priorities of the league. "The purpose of the Southeastern Conference is to assist its member institutions in the maintenance of programs of intercollegiate athletics which are compatible with the highest standards of education and competitive sports."

SEC Sportsmanship Statement

"Coaches and student-athletes of a member institution, as well as individuals employed by or associated with that institution, including alumni, fans, patrons and boosters, shall conduct themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their behavior shall at all times reflect the high standards of honor and dignity that characterize participation in the collegiate setting.

"For intercollegiate athletics to promote the character development of participants, to enhance the integrity of higher education and to promote civility in society, coaches, student-athletes and all others associated with these athletics programs and events should adhere to such fundamental values as respect, fairness, civility, honesty and responsibility. These values should be manifested not only in athletics participation but also in the broad spectrum of activities affecting the athletics program.

"It is the responsibility of each member institution to establish policies for sportsmanship and ethical conduct in intercollegiate athletics consistent with the educational mission and goals of the institution. Furthermore, member institutions are responsible for educating on a continuing basis all constituencies about these policies."

SEC Rules on Sportsmanship & Ethical Conduct:

10.5 SPORTSMANSHIP

10.5.1 All institutional staff members and student-athletes of a member institution, shall conduct themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their behavior shall at all times reflect the standards of honor and dignity that characterize participation in the collegiate setting. For intercollegiate athletics to promote the character development of participants, to enhance the integrity of higher education and to promote civility in society, coaches, student-athletes and all others associated with these athletics programs and events should adhere to such fundamental values as honor, respect, fairness, civility, honesty and responsibility. These values should be manifest not only in athletics participation but also in the broad spectrum of activities affecting the athletics program. It is the responsibility of each member institution to establish policies for sportsmanship and ethical conduct in intercollegiate athletics consistent with the educational mission and goals of the institution. Furthermore, member institutions are responsible for educating all constituencies about these policies on a continuing basis.

10.5.2 Coaches and administrators shall refrain from public criticism of other member institutions, their staffs or players. Coaches and administrators shall also refrain from making public statements and accusations with regard to infractions concerning member institutions and their personnel. In response to questions by the media, it is appropriate to state that infractions are reported, investigated and addressed in accordance with established Conference and NCAA procedures.

10.5.3 Coaches, players and support personnel shall refrain from all public criticism of officials, which shall include making public any specific communications with the Conference office and/or officiating coordinators related to officiating.

10.5.4 Coaches and support personnel shall provide favorable examples in appearance, conduct, language, and sportsmanship and shall refrain from personal conduct that may incite spectators.

The Southeastern Conference embraces the principles of ethical conduct stated in the NCAA Manual.

SEC Limit on Nontraditional Transfer Courses

14.4.10 Nontraditional Courses from Another Institution. A total of not more than nine semester or 12 quarter hours of nontraditional course work (e.g., distance-learning, correspondence, extension, Internet/visual courses, independent study or any other course or credit that is not earned in a face-to-face classroom environment with regular interaction between the instructor and the student) that is completed at another institution within an academic year (as defined by the certifying institution's official academic calendar) period may be used to fulfill the minimum satisfactory-progress requirements. (See NCAA Bylaw 14.4.3.5.3) [Revised: 6/2/17 effective 8/1/17; Revised: 6/3/21]

TAMU ATHLETICS SPORT ADMINISTRATORS

Name	Designation	Email
Trev Alberts	Director of Athletics Football	talberts@athletics.tamu.edu
Brad Barnes	Executive Associate AD: Compliance & Risk Management; / Athletics Clery Liaison Swimming & Diving	bbarnes@athletics.tamu.edu
Chris Barttelbort	Assistant AD Eligibility & Data Analysis; Men's Golf	cbarttelbort@athletics.tamu.edu
Dr. Dan Childs	Executive Associate AD: Academics & Student-Athlete Engagement; Women's Soccer	dchilds@athletics.tamu.edu
Amanda Hernandez	Assistant AD: Student-Athlete Engagement; Equestrian	ahernandez@athletics.tamu.edu
Erin Jones	Executive Associate AD: Game Management & Event Management; Baseball	ejones@athletics.tamu.edu
Kristi Mejias	Executive Associate AD: Strategic Planning /SWA; Athletics Title IX Liaison Volleyball, Women's Basketball, Softball	kmejias@athletics.tamu.edu
Marcos Mendez	Assistant AD: Athletics Compliance; Softball	mmendez@athletics.tamu.edu
Michelle Stout	Assistant AD: Learning Services; Women's Golf	mstout@athletics.tamu.edu
Susan Tatum	Assistant AD: Athletics Compliance; Men's Tennis	statum@athletics.tamu.edu
Lance Troester	Assistant AD: Athletics Compliance; Men's Basketball	ltroester@athletics.tamu.edu
Jamie Vaughn	Executive Associate AD: Internal Operations; Men's Basketball & Football	jvaughn@athletics.tamu.edu
Jonathan Wallace	Assistant AD: Name, Image, Likeness; Track, Field, & Cross Country	jonathanwallace@athletics.tamu.edu
Kristy Williams	Assistant AD: Athletics Marketing; Women's Tennis	kristywilliams@athletics.tamu.edu

Athletics Communications

The Athletics Communications office, located on the ground floor on the west side of Kyle Field, is responsible for publicizing the 20 men's and women's intercollegiate sports programs at TAMU. The staff accomplishes this task by producing game programs and press packets, preparing press releases, doing research into records and maintaining statistics and records throughout the year. Athletics Communications coordinates player and coach interviews as well as handling game management duties in regard to press boxes and post-event interviews. Texas A&M staff may have no involvement with compensated media activities outside of notifying a student-athlete of such an opportunity.

In conjunction with your coaching staff, the Athletics Communications staff will nominate student-athletes for various awards including academic and special awards, as well as some additional scholarship opportunities.

The Athletics Communications office is a clearinghouse for information and the liaison between the media and the Athletics Department. Sports-specific directors work to arrange interviews at convenient times for the student-athletes and help student-athletes prepare for an interview by anticipating questions and discussing some interview do's and don'ts. In cases where the media will not be able to attend a particular contest or event, an Athletics Communications representative drafts a story and sends the information and statistics to the various media outlets. Athletics Communications directors also help maintain and direct the Athletics Department's social media presence. Do not hesitate to contact the Athletics Communications office if you have questions about proper interaction with the media or just wish to learn more about our sport-specific functions.



TEXAS A&M ATHLETICS POLICIES & PROCEDURES

TAMU Student-Athlete Code of Conduct

As a student-athlete at Texas A&M University, you are expected to conduct yourself in a manner that enables you to make the most of the educational and athletic opportunities afforded you at this university. When representing your team and TAMU, it is your responsibility to exhibit an attitude and behavior that will contribute to you being a productive member of the campus community and the Athletics Department.

Principles of behavior that all student-athletes are expected to adhere to are outlined in the code of conduct below.

1. Student-athletes will display respect for teammates, coaches and athletics staff at all times.
2. Student-athletes will exhibit positive attitudes and behavior that reflect well on the team, as well as the University. This includes behaving in the appropriate manner while traveling with the team and representing TAMU.
3. Student-athletes will be required to follow all rules set forth by the University, Athletics Department, SEC and NCAA. Furthermore, enrolled student-athletes have an affirmative obligation to cooperate fully with and assist Texas A&M University, the NCAA enforcement staff, the Committee on Infractions, and the Infractions Appeals Committee to further the objectives of the Association and its infractions program. Full cooperation includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Affirmatively reporting instances of noncompliance to the NCAA national office in a timely manner;
 - b. Affirmatively preserving relevant materials, documentation and/or electronically stored information upon becoming aware, from any source, of potential violations;
 - c. Assisting in the development of full information to determine whether a possible violation of NCAA bylaws has occurred and the details thereof;
 - d. Timely participation in interviews and providing complete and truthful responses;
 - e. Making a full and complete disclosure of relevant information, including timely production of materials or information requested, and in the format requested;
 - f. Disclosing and providing access to all electronic devices and accounts that are or may be relevant to the investigation;
 - g. Providing access to all social media, messaging and other applications that are or may be relevant to the investigation;
 - h. Preserving the integrity of an investigation and abiding by all applicable confidentiality bylaws and instructions, including public disclosure as outlined in NCAA Bylaw 19.3;
 - i. Instructing legal counsel, agents and/or others acting on a party's behalf to cooperate fully; and
 - j. Encouraging spouses, family members, representatives of the institution's athletics interests and/or other associates to cooperate fully, including participating in interviews if requested and allowing access to all electronic devices and accounts that are or may be relevant to the investigation.

Failing to cooperate in such investigations includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Failing to fulfill the responsibility provide full cooperation as outlined above;
 - b. Refusing to provide or attempting to influence others to refuse to provide information relevant to a possible violation of NCAA bylaws when requested to do so by the NCAA and/or the individual's institution; and
 - c. Providing or attempting to influence others to provide the NCAA and/or the individual's institution false or misleading information relevant to a possible violation of NCAA bylaws.
4. Student-athletes are expected to strictly abide by team rules set forth by coaches for their sport(s). Failure to comply with these rules could lead to loss of privileges and/or dismissal from team.

5. Student-athletes shall attend and be punctual for all required athletic endeavors. Tardiness or missed practices, team meetings and competitive events are subject to disciplinary actions.
6. Student-athletes must maintain their academic responsibilities as well as appropriate conduct in the classroom. Class attendance is mandatory and all assignments are to be submitted on the assigned date. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and may result in prolonged ineligibility and/or dismissal from the University, and will be reported to Athletics Compliance.
7. Student-athletes are not permitted to consume any alcoholic beverages while traveling with teams representing the University. Alcohol is not permitted for anyone under the age of 21. Tobacco use is also strongly discouraged for all student-athletes and is prohibited at all athletic practices and competitions.
8. Student-athletes shall not discriminate against others based on race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. Discrimination or harassment will not be condoned by the Athletics Department or TAMU.
9. Student-athletes shall not participate in any sports wagering activities involving intercollegiate sports or their professional or other amateur equivalents. A wager is any agreement in which an individual or entity agrees to give up an item of value (e.g., cash, shirt, dinner) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value. Sports wagering includes placing, accepting or soliciting a wager (on a staff member's or student-athlete's own behalf or on the behalf of others) of any type with any individual or organization on any intercollegiate, amateur or professional team or contest. Examples of sports wagering include, but are not limited to, the use of a bookmaker or parlay card; Internet sports wagering; auctions in which bids are placed on teams, individuals or contests; and pools or fantasy leagues in which an entry fee is required and there is an opportunity to win a prize. Student-athletes should NOT share any information about their team or any other team. This includes information regarding team disciplinary actions, strategy, injuries or team morale. This information is sought by gamblers. Any involvement in prohibited sports wagering activities or involvement by a student-athlete or with those who wager on athletic events could have serious consequences for the student-athlete.
10. Student-athletes will be held to the standards set by TAMU regarding prohibited conduct. See Student Life Rules [<https://student-rules.tamu.edu/studentliferules>] for detailed standards and regulations.
11. Student-athletes shall not engage in hazing or consent to acts of hazing being committed upon them. Hazing is the subjection of another to extreme physical or mental harassment, usually associated with a social organization. Hazing by a student-athlete may subject that student to university discipline. See Student Conduct Code, Rule 24.4.5 [<https://student-rules.tamu.edu/append6/>] for examples of hazing.
12. Student-athletes shall refrain from all public criticism of SEC officials, which shall include making public any specific communications with the SEC related to officiating.

Inability to follow or meet the standards established by the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct or the University's Student Life Rules could result in the reduction or elimination of the student-athlete's financial aid. See NCAA Bylaw 15.3.

Student-Athlete Arrest Procedure

In the event the Executive Associate Athletics Director/SWA is notified of or otherwise becomes aware of the arrest of a student-athlete by local, state, federal or other law enforcement, he/she will request publicly available information (for example, probable cause statement or police report) from the arresting law enforcement agency. The Executive Associate Athletics Director/SWA should try to ascertain information regarding the details of the crime and the condition of the student-athlete.

Throughout this rule, if the phrase “or designee” appears after a title then the designee has the authority to take all actions referenced in the rule unless the rule specifically limits the authority to a single titled position.

The Executive Associate Athletics Director/SWA should notify the following:

- Athletics Director
- Head Coach or designee
- Designated Sport Administrator
- Executive Associate Athletics Director for External Operations
- TAMU Director of Student & Community Standard

The student-athlete should notify his/her head coach of the arrest immediately. The coach should immediately notify the Executive Associate Athletics Director/SWA if a student-athlete is arrested. The arrest of a student-athlete will result in immediate suspension of that student-athlete from the sports team. Upon receipt of a suspension notice letter from the Athletics Director, the student-athlete is suspended from all team activities including, but not limited to, practice and competition. A meeting with the student-athlete and Athletics Director (or designee) will be immediately initiated, with every effort to schedule the meeting as soon as possible after the arrest. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to contact the Athletics Director’s office to arrange the meeting.

The Athletics Director may lift or modify a suspension prior to the case being decided by the legal system. If the Athletics Director lifts or modifies a suspension, the student-athlete’s head coach has the authority to impose additional parameters for the student-athlete’s reinstatement to his/her team, but only if the head coach has established a written team policy concerning the impact of an arrest or conviction of a student-athlete and distributed the policy to the team during the academic year. A copy of team policies should be forwarded to the Athletics Director (or designee) each year.

Athletics financial aid will remain in place for the remainder of the semester unless the Athletics Director or Head Coach believes the situation warrants a reduction or cancellation. The student-athlete retains the right to appeal any reduction or cancellation of athletics aid during the period of the award pursuant to Athletics Department procedures. The student-athlete is expected to continue attending all scheduled academic requirements and continue to use student-athlete academic support and sports medicine services when applicable, unless otherwise notified.

A student-athlete convicted of a felony charge or misdemeanor charge of a violent nature (the use or attempted use of physical force against a person or property of another, or that by its nature, involves a substantial risk that physical force against a person or property of another may be used in the course of committing the offense) is immediately dismissed from the team and forfeits any financial assistance from the Athletics Department. The student-athlete retains the right to appeal before forfeiture occurs pursuant to Athletics Department Policy and Procedures.

Any student-athlete in violation of federal, state or local laws or university student rules is subject to university disciplinary proceedings as set forth in to the Texas A&M University Student Code of Conduct (<https://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule24/>), and the Student-Athlete Handbook.

Regardless of the nature of an arrest or charge, staff members may not intervene in or otherwise attempt to influence any criminal investigations, legal proceedings, or ultimate outcomes. Staff members are prohibited from securing legal representation for student-athletes

Academic Eligibility

To be eligible to represent TAMU in competition, a student-athlete must be in good academic standing at TAMU. For example, if the dean of a student-athlete's college decides that as a part of his/her scholastic probation he/she shall no longer be allowed to enroll as a regular (i.e., full time) student, he/she will not be in good academic standing, and therefore, ineligible for competition.

Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements				
Academic Requirements	Prior to the <u>Second Year</u> of Enrollment	Prior to the <u>Third Year</u> of Enrollment	Prior to the <u>Fourth Year</u> of Enrollment	Prior to the <u>Fifth Year</u> of Enrollment
Regular Academic Term	6 semester hours of credit	6 semester hours of credit	6 semester hours of degree-applicable credit	6 semester hours of degree-applicable credit
Regular Academic Year	18 semester hours of credit	18 semester hours of credit	18 semester hours of credit	18 semester hours of credit
Annual/Percentage-of-Degree	24 semester/36 quarter hours of credit	40-percent of the designated degree must be completed	60-percent of the designated degree must be completed	80-percent of the designated degree must be completed
Grade-Point Average	90-percent of the minimum GPA required for graduation (1.8 at TAMU)	95-percent of the minimum GPA required for graduation (1.9 at TAMU)	100-percent of the minimum GPA required for graduation (2.0 at TAMU)	100-percent of the minimum GPA required for graduation (2.0 at TAMU)
Sport-Specific Requirements	Football student-athletes must complete 9 hours of academic credit during the fall term and meet all progress toward degree requirements to be eligible for the spring term if they are to be eligible for the 1st four games of the next season. If a baseball student-athlete is not eligible for the fall semester, he is also not eligible for the following spring semester.	Football student-athletes must complete 9 hours of academic credit during the fall term and meet all progress toward degree requirements to be eligible for the spring term if they are to be eligible for the 1st four games of the next season. If a baseball student-athlete is not eligible for the fall semester, he is also not eligible for the following spring semester.	Football student-athletes must complete 9 hours of academic credit during the fall term and meet all progress toward degree requirements to be eligible for the spring term if they are to be eligible for the 1st four games of the next season. If a baseball student-athlete is not eligible for the fall semester, he is also not eligible for the following spring semester.	Football student-athletes must complete 9 hours of academic credit during the fall term and meet all progress toward degree requirements to be eligible for the spring term if they are to be eligible for the 1st four games of the next season. If a baseball student-athlete is not eligible for the fall semester, he is also not eligible for the following spring semester.

Amateurism

The NCAA membership has adopted amateurism rules to ensure the students' priorities remain on obtaining a quality educational experience and that all student-athletes are competing equitably.

All incoming student-athletes must be certified as amateurs in all sports in which they will participate. With global recruiting becoming more common, determining the amateur status of prospective student-athletes can be challenging. All student-athletes, including international students, are required to adhere to NCAA amateurism requirements to remain eligible for intercollegiate competition.

In general, amateurism requirements do not allow:

- Contracts with professional teams
- Salaries for participating in athletics
- Prize money above actual and necessary expenses
- Competition as a professional athlete or as a member of a professional team
- Benefits from an agent or prospective agent
- Agreements to be represented by an agent (not including NIL representation)
- Delays in initial full-time collegiate enrollment to participate in organized sports competition

Tryouts with professional teams after collegiate enrollment are permissible under the following circumstances:

- After initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual who has eligibility remaining may try out with a professional athletics team (or participate in a combine including that team) at any time, provided the individual does not miss class. The individual may receive actual and necessary expenses in conjunction with one 48-hour tryout per professional team (or a combine including that team). Actual and necessary expenses are limited to:
 - Meals;
 - Lodging;
 - Apparel, equipment and supplies;
 - Coaching and instruction;
 - Health/medical insurance;
 - Transportation (expenses to and from practice and competition, cost of transportation from home to training/practice site at the beginning of the season/preparation for an event and from training/practice/event site to home at the end of season/event);
 - Medical treatment and physical therapy;
 - Facility usage;
 - Entry fees; and
 - Other reasonable expenses.

The 48-hour tryout period shall begin at the time the individual arrives at the tryout location. At the completion of the 48-hour period, the individual must depart the location of the tryout immediately in order to receive return transportation expenses. A tryout may extend beyond 48 hours if the individual self-finances additional expenses, including return transportation. A self-financed tryout may be for any length of time, provided the individual does not miss class.

- In basketball, a student-athlete may accept actual and necessary travel, and room and board expenses from a professional sports organization to attend that organization's basketball draft combine regardless of the duration of the camp.

- In men's basketball, an individual may receive actual and necessary expenses each year in conjunction with one 48-hour tryout per professional team and in conjunction with a professional organization's draft combine. An individual who is invited to participate in a professional organization's draft combine is permitted to miss class for such participation and associated travel.
- In football, a student-athlete may participate in a postseason practice per Bylaw 17.11.7.4 without such activity being considered a tryout with a professional team.
- **During a tryout, an individual may not take part in any outside competition (games or scrimmages) as a representative of a professional team.**

To protect your NCAA amateur status, remember these key points:

- **Do not accept any benefits or free services** from an agent, advisor, attorney, sports marketer, financial professional or other individual who is acting as an advisor (or one of their employees).
- **Do not agree orally or in writing** to be represented as a professional athlete now or in the future by an agent, advisor, sports-marketer or financial professional, *unless it is representation limited to NIL marketing.*
- **Do not allow an agent, advisor, sports-marketer or individual other than your parents/legal guardians to act as an intermediary with professional sports leagues or teams (doing so = you have a sports agent).**

Baseball Specific Issues PRIOR to Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment:

- In baseball, prior to full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual who is drafted by a professional baseball team may be represented by an agent or attorney during contract negotiations.
- The individual may not receive benefits (other than representation) from the agent or attorney.
- The individual must pay the going rate for the representation.
- If the individual does not sign a contract with the professional team, the agreement for representation with the agent or attorney must be terminated prior to full-time collegiate enrollment.
- Be prepared to provide documentation that the going rate for services was paid and that the agreement for representation was terminated prior to initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

Baseball Specific Issues AFTER Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment (including undrafted high school players, 2-year college players, and 4-year college players):

- **Do not use an advisor.** If you do, tell no one in professional baseball who that advisor is (e.g., do not list the advisor on any questionnaires) because circumstances beyond your control may very likely result in professional baseball clubs' personnel contacting the advisor to discuss you and your potential 'sign-ability'. Such actions beyond your control will cause your advisor to be defined as an agent according to the NCAA staff's interpretation of NCAA rules, thereby rendering you ineligible.
- **If you have already been involved with or used an advisor,** you and your family should communicate in writing to both the advisor and all professional sports organizations. State your desire that the advisor should never speak to a professional baseball organization about you, and that no professional sports organization should attempt to communicate with you through any advisor, attorney, or other individual besides you and your parents or legal guardians. Clarify that you do not have agent representation and that all communication regarding your potential draft or signing should occur directly with you and your family. Furthermore, you and your family should retain copies of the request sent to any advisor and professional sports organizations.

- Take documented steps to see that professional sports scouts and personnel staffers do not contact your advisor(s).
- **Do not include the name of or contact information for an advisor on any forms you will be sending to scouting bureaus or professional sports teams or leagues.**
- **Never authorize or allow anyone other than your parents/legal guardians to negotiate with a professional sports team or potential sponsor, to be present during negotiations, or to discuss your ‘sign-ability’ with a professional sports organization.**

Additional information regarding NCAA amateurism rules is available on the **NCAA’s website** by clicking on the “Resources” link at the top of the page. Another resource is the **Guide for the College Bound Student-Athlete**.

Texas A&M University Name, Image, and Likeness Policy

Purpose of Policy

Texas A&M Athletics is committed to supporting its student-athletes in their pursuit of name, image, and likeness (NIL) activities that result in compensation from sources outside of Texas A&M in accordance with applicable NCAA regulations and/or state or federal laws. The intent of this policy is to promote compliance with applicable laws and regulations, clarify student-athletes' rights to receive compensation for the use of their name, image, and likeness, and preserve student-athletes' eligibility. This policy is not intended to prevent or discourage student-athletes from earning compensation for their name, image, and likeness that is otherwise allowed.

Please note that Texas A&M's NIL policy is subject to change. Student-athletes engaging in NIL activity are encouraged to consult the full policy regularly and to direct questions to Jonathan Wallace, Assistant Athletics Director for NIL (nil@athletics.tamu.edu) or Steve Geelhoed, Director of Compliance (sgeelhoed@athletics.tamu.edu). Texas A&M's Athletics Department's NIL Office and the Athletics Compliance Office share responsibility for administering this policy and ensuring compliance. To review the full NIL Policy please click [here](#).

Disclosure of NIL Agreements

- According to Texas law, student-athletes shall disclose any NIL activity to the Texas A&M Athletics Compliance Office **before entering into the contract (written or verbal)**:
 - [CompassNIL](#) or [INFLCR](#)
- Disclosures shall include a description of the NIL activity, the parties involved, the value and nature of any compensation provided, and a copy of any proposed written agreement pertaining to the activity.

NIL Consideration and Terms

Legal and permissible NIL requires NIL-based consideration by the student-athlete. While a student-athlete's athletic performance may enhance the student-athlete's NIL value, a student-athlete's NIL compensation may not be in exchange for:

- No NIL-based consideration from the student-athlete (i.e., no NIL-based quid-pro-quo, something for nothing; failure by the student-athlete to supply NIL deliverables);
- Athletics participation/performance/achievement (e.g., scoring three touchdowns, placing in the top five at an SEC championship meet, winning the Heisman Trophy), roster membership, or accepting an offer to attend (or reside in the area of) Texas A&M;
- Directly or indirectly promoting an intercollegiate athletics competition in which the student-athlete may participate (e.g., football student-athlete may not be paid to promote the bowl game in which he will participate); or
- The sale of institutional property (e.g., current Texas A&M Athletics-issued apparel, equipment, footwear, jersey, helmet, university-owned photo and video content, etc.) or awards (e.g., letter awards, post-season awards) issued to a student-athlete because of the student-athlete's participation in intercollegiate athletics.

International Student-Athletes

International student-athletes should not engage in NIL Activities without first securing guidance from the student-athlete's professional advisor (e.g., an immigration attorney) and/or International Student Services to guard against potential immigration issues. An F1 visa holding student-athlete who engages in NIL work while in the USA may jeopardize his/her visa and, therefore, his/her ability to remain in the USA.

Prohibited Endorsement Categories

- Student-athletes may not engage in any NIL activity if any provision of the NIL agreement conflicts with a provision of the student athlete's team contract, a provision of an institutional contract, a policy of Texas A&M's Athletics Department, a provision of the Texas A&M honor code, or any NIL activity that promotes or endorses:
 - Alcohol;
 - Tobacco products, e-cigarettes, or any other type of nicotine delivery device;
 - Anabolic steroids;
 - Sports betting
 - Casino gambling
 - Illegal firearms;
 - Sexually oriented businesses

Timing of NIL Activities

Student-athletes may participate in compensated NIL activities (e.g., NIL deliverables such as promotion of their NIL activities, wearing sponsored apparel/footwear), but not during Texas A&M official team activities (see above at definitions). Each sport shall be responsible for designating “free time” on its itineraries for away-from-home competition and informing student-athletes of when “free time” shall occur. Furthermore, student-athletes may not miss required academic obligations (e.g., class, exams, or scheduled tutor/mentor sessions) for NIL activities and may be penalized for missing or ignoring academic or team obligations for NIL related purposes.

Forms of Texas A&M Involvement

According to Texas law, Texas A&M, its staff (including those outside of the Athletics Department) acting individually may identify, create, facilitate, and otherwise assist with opportunities regarding a student-athlete's NIL activity.

- **Identify/create/facilitate/otherwise assist** means finding leads and opportunities for student-athletes and their potential NIL partners.
 - Only designated Texas A&M staff members (designated staff members shall not include coaches or non-coaching staff members) may assist with facilitating a connection for an NIL activity and educating outside entities on the NIL best practices at Texas A&M.
 - It would be permissible, for example, to provide student-athletes with introductions to an NIL entity or a team roster.
 - It would not be permissible to provide an NIL entity with information related to which student-athletes are recipients of an athletic grant-in aid (or the amount). This would be a FERPA violation.
 - It does not mean acting as a marketing agent for student-athletes, negotiating NIL deals, or directing/encouraging potential NIL partners to engage in NIL with specific student-athletes because this is tantamount to institutional compensation.
- **Education Beyond that Required by Texas Law.** Texas A&M may educate student-athletes on a variety of NIL-related subjects, including but not limited to: marketing, entrepreneurship, social media, photography, and audio/video production.

Use of Intellectual Property or Campus Facilities for Student-Athlete's NIL Activities

- Use of Intellectual Property
 - Athletes may use Texas A&M intellectual property (e.g., uniform, registered trademark, iconic landmarks, copyright-protected product, or official logo, mark, or other indicia) only if:
 - Texas A&M Athletics (i.e., 12th Man Creative) and the Office of Brand Development has provided express permission for the use;
 - The student-athlete and/or the person contracting for the use of the student athlete's NIL comply with any requirements Texas A&M establishes, including requirements related to licensing; and
 - Texas A&M is compensated for the use in an amount consistent with market rates. Last updated February 14, 2024. Individuals and entities may obtain licensing information from the Office of Brand Development.
- Use of Campus
 - The use of Texas A&M facilities for compensated NIL activities is permitted only if:
 - (a) Texas A&M has provided express permission for the use; and (b) the student-athlete and/or the person contracting for the use of the student-athlete's NIL has compensated Texas A&M for the use of its facilities in an amount consistent with market rates.
 - In order to utilize Texas A&M Athletics' facilities, see the rental information [HERE](#). For information regarding facilities not listed, contact specialevents@athletics.tamu.edu.
 - All commercial photography and videography shoots on University property, including Athletics' facilities, must be approved by the Office of Brand Development in advance. Before scheduling the shoot on campus, please contact licensing@tamu.edu.
 - Use of a Texas A&M University facility for NIL activities may not include use of any Texas A&M marks or other IP captured in any imagery taken during the rental. Images containing Texas A&M marks or other IP are subject to approval by Texas A&M prior to any use for commercial purposes (e.g., using such images for a sponsored social media post). Furthermore, on-campus NIL activity that involves solicitation of orders, sales, rentals or donations must comply with Texas A&M's Soliciting on Campus Policy and receive approval from the appropriate offices (e.g., Department of Student Activities) before engaging in the activity.

Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct

It is not by accident that the pursuit of the highest levels of integrity and sportsmanship are core values of the NCAA, as the Association was founded to address unsportsmanlike acts and other issues that cost student-athletes their lives.

Today, values such as respect, caring, fairness, civility, honesty, integrity and responsibility are key to creating a positive competitive environment for student-athletes across the country.

To foster this kind of culture, the **NCAA Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct** offers **resources to schools and conferences** for use in their sportsmanship programs, and celebrates extraordinary acts of sportsmanship and ethical conduct via the **NCAA Sportsmanship Awards**.

Individual schools and conferences are responsible for creating and maintaining positive competitive environments for student-athletes, coaches, officials and fans at their sponsored events. During NCAA-sponsored events, the NCAA works with host schools and venues to do the same.

For more information, contact ncaasportsmanship@ncaa.org.

Sports Wagering

The NCAA opposes all forms of legal and illegal sports wagering, which has the potential to undermine the integrity of sports contests and jeopardizes the welfare of student-athletes and the intercollegiate athletics community.

Student-athletes shall not participate in any gambling sports wagering activities involving intercollegiate sports or its professional or other amateur sport equivalents. A wager is any agreement in which an individual or entity agrees to give up an item of value (e.g., cash, shirt, dinner) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value. Sports wagering includes placing, accepting or soliciting a wager (on a staff member's or student-athlete's own behalf or on the behalf of others) of any type with any individual or organization on any intercollegiate, amateur or professional team or contest. Examples of sports wagering include, but are not limited to, the use of a bookmaker or parlay card; Internet sports wagering; auctions in which bids are placed on teams, individuals or contests; and pools or fantasy leagues in which an entry fee is required and there is an opportunity to win a prize. **Any involvement in personal gambling prohibited sports wagering activities or contact involvement by a student-athlete or with those who wager on athletic events could have serious consequences for the student-athlete.**

Do not place a wager of any item of value (e.g., money, goods, services) on any NCAA-sponsored sports or their professional and/or amateur counterparts (e.g., minor league baseball, NBA, NFL, PGA, Olympic events, etc.) This includes fantasy leagues, sports pools and March Madness brackets (if an entry fee of any item of value is required and a prize is awarded).

Student-athletes should NOT share any information about their team or any other team. This information is sought by gamblers.

This includes any information on the following:

- Team disciplinary actions
- New plays or strategy
- Team morale
- Injuries

Consequences may include:

- Loss of all remaining eligibility in all sports at all NCAA institutions
- Financial hardship
- Criminal charges
- Media scrutiny
- Run-ins with organized crime
- Loss of jobs
- Loss of scholarship
- Dismissal from the team

Extra Benefits

An extra benefit is any special arrangement by an institutional employee or representative of the institution's athletics interests to provide a student-athlete or a student-athlete's relative or friend with a benefit not expressly authorized by NCAA legislation.

Receipt of a benefit by a student-athlete or his/her relatives or friends is not a violation of NCAA legislation if it is demonstrated that the same benefit is generally available to the institution's students or their relatives or friends or to a particular segment of the student body (e.g., international students, minority students) determined on a basis unrelated to athletic ability.

This legislation applies to every person who encounters a student-athlete, including, but not limited to: coaches, administrators, boosters, athletic trainers, administrative assistants, graduate assistants, tutors, interns, volunteer coaches, professors, etc.

Some (impermissible) extra benefit examples include (but are not limited to) boosters or staff:

- Providing a student-athlete with access to a vacation home or recreational items (e.g., boats, jet skis, hunting leases, etc.)
- Providing a student-athlete with the use of a car;
- Providing a student-athlete with a loan; or
- Providing a student-athlete's family with free tickets and/or access to suites.

There are very few benefits that student-athletes may receive beyond benefits incidental to their participation in athletics. **If an extra benefit is provided, the student-athlete's eligibility, the program, and the institution may all be in jeopardy no matter how insignificant someone may think the benefit is.**

Professional Sports Counseling Panel (PSCP)

TAMU's PSCP is designed to provide student-athletes and their parents with information and counseling relevant to potential futures in professional sports as well as activities for which a student-athlete will be compensated based on the use of a student-athlete's name/image/likeness (NIL). The PSCP assists in the dissemination of materials related to professional sports careers and also sponsors seminars/meetings concerning issues related to professional sports for the benefit of student-athletes and their families. The PSCP, upon request, also assists in the coordination of pre/post-season interviews with sports agents, financial professionals and other individuals associated with professional sports careers who desire to meet with student-athletes. Through the course of the year, the panel places an emphasis on the following:

- The education of student-athletes and parents regarding NCAA bylaws related to amateurism/professionalism (Remember: you must remain an amateur according to NCAA rules to represent TAMU in competition in your sport(s)).
- The provision of a support structure for the student-athlete in the selection or screening of an agent and a financial advisor.
- The collection of information for a student-athlete in reference to a student-athlete's market value and potential as a professional athlete.
- Assistance in reference to exploring the options relative to insurance policies related to protecting a student-athlete from the loss of future professional sport earnings.

- The provision of learning opportunities by sponsoring seminars that explore issues relative to professional sports.
- The review of proposed professional sports contracts.
- NIL activities for which a student-athlete will be compensated.

Whenever you have questions related to a professional sports career, desire to meet or communicate with an agent, or explore insurance related to a future professional sports career, contact Brad Barnes from the Athletics Compliance Office. He is the chair of the Professional Sports Counseling Panel.

Promotional Activities

If you wish to participate in the promotion of anything other than TAMU Athletics and the 12th Man Foundation, first contact Athletics Compliance to determine if you may do so without violating NCAA rules and Texas' NIL law. If the activity will involve the compensated use of your NIL by an outside organization or individual, Texas A&M staff may not arrange such an activity, and you may not engage in such NIL activity during Texas A&M Athletics official team activities. Furthermore, you must report the proposed compensated NIL activity, and receive approval for it before engaging in it, through the Compass NIL portal. When submitting proposed deals in Compass NIL, make sure to attach a contract or correspondence that details what you're doing in exchange for compensation.

Athletics Grant-in-Aid

According to NCAA regulations, athletics grant-in-aid are limited to educational expenses including tuition, fees, room, board, and required course related books and other educational expenses up to the institution's cost of attendance. Each varsity sport is provided a specific number of athletics grants-in-aid within the guidelines established by the NCAA, SEC, and TAMU. An athletics grant-in-aid must be awarded for no less than one academic year (with some exceptions such as midyear enrollees). The amount of each award is at the discretion of the head coach of each sport. After a head coach recommends a student-athlete for a grant-in-aid and it is approved by the Associate Athletics Director for Student-Athlete Services and the Athletics Director or designee, appropriate documentation is sent to the Scholarships & Financial Aid Office for processing. To receive your grant-in-aid money for the fall and spring, you must be enrolled as a full-time student each semester (with limited exceptions).

NCAA regulations require that the Scholarships & Financial Aid Office make a decision to renew, reduce, or non-renew a student-athlete's athletics financial aid on or before July 1 prior to the academic year in which it is to be effective and promptly notify in writing each student-athlete who received an award the previous academic year and who has eligibility remaining in the sport in which financial aid was awarded the previous academic year of the institution's decision. Student-athletes, whose grant-in-aid is to be reduced or cancelled, will be notified via certified mail. A student-athlete electing to appeal the decision of the Athletics Department concerning the nonrenewal or reduction of an athletics grant-in-aid to the Scholarship Appeals Panel of the University Scholarship Committee must do so in writing no later than July 15 or within fifteen (15) days of the receipt of official notification. The Athletics Department and University Scholarship Committee has established policies detailing the procedures governing the non-renewal or reduction in the amount of an athletics grant-in-aid at the end of an award term. These procedures are enforced by TAMU's Scholarship Committee. To receive more information on these policies and procedures, contact the Associate Athletics Director for Student-Athlete Services or the Athletics Compliance Office.

Off-Campus Athletics Grants-in-Aid

Financial aid stipends are provided in accordance with NCAA rules to full grant-in-aid student-athletes living off-campus. The amount of the award is equal to the cost of financial aid for housing and board established by the Scholarships and Financial Aid Office as well as the value established for personal and travel expenses included in the cost of attendance. If you receive a full grant-in-aid, you will receive an electronic funds deposit into your account at the beginning of each month during the regular school year for the room and board and an electronic funds deposit into your account at the middle of the month on three occasions per term for the other expenses in cost of attendance. If you plan to attend summer school, you will receive an electronic funds deposit at the beginning of each summer session to cover room and board costs and other expenses in cost of attendance for that session. All funds are sent via direct deposit to the student-athlete's designated checking or savings account. If you should decide to withdraw from a regular or summer school term, you may be responsible for returning the amount of money that was allotted for the remainder of the term that was not attended.

Student-athletes receiving a partial athletics grant-in-aid, the total of which exceeds the cost of books, tuition, and fees, will be sent the additional balance at the beginning of each semester. All funds are sent via direct deposit to the student-athlete's designated checking or savings account.

Grant-in-Aid Points to Remember

1. Receipt of grant-in-aid checks and awards can be delayed due to not having an established direct deposit account, not being enrolled in the appropriate number of hours in a semester, or failure to pay back an institutional loan.
2. You are encouraged to apply for non-athletics aid (including scholarships, grants, employment and loans), some of which is awarded based on financial eligibility. To learn more about financial aid eligibility, contact the Athletics Financial Aid Coordinator at sfaid-athletics@tamu.edu.

3. As a member of an athletic team, you must report all financial assistance other than money from a parent or guardian, to the Athletics Financial Aid Coordinator to ensure that eligibility will not be jeopardized. Other financial assistance includes scholarships, grants, employment, and/or loans.
4. Student-athlete employment earnings are not considered institutional financial aid; however, they may affect your federal financial aid and outside scholarships that are based in part or in whole on financial need.
5. NCAA rules, in combination with Texas' NIL law, stipulate that student-athlete employment earnings must comply with the following restrictions:
 - a. Your compensation does not include any remuneration for value or utility that you may have for the employer because of the publicity, reputation, fame or personal following that you have obtained because of athletics ability, unless it is for the use of your name, image and/or likeness (NIL) and you have reported this and received approval via CompassNIL or INFLCR's Amplify Local Exchange;
 - b. You will be compensated only for work actually performed; and
 - c. You will be compensated at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services, unless the reason your compensation is more than that rate relates to the company's use of your NIL.

Post-Eligibility/Continued Aid

To provide you a greater opportunity to graduate, you may receive financial aid after exhausting your eligibility to complete your undergraduate studies. The following are some of the guidelines that exist for you to receive continued aid:

- Pursuing an undergraduate degree and be recommended for continued aid by your head coach and approved by the Athletics Director, or designee;
- Received an athletics grant-in-aid in your fourth (4th) year of eligibility;
- Maintaining satisfactory academic progress in all courses attempted;
- Conforming to the policies and procedures contained in the TAMU Student Code of Conduct, as well as those established by NCAA, SEC, and TAMU Athletics. That is, you must refrain from conduct detrimental to the University and Athletics Department; and
- Meet all applicable expectations as defined by the Continued Aid Program.

Textbook Rental/Return Policy

The Athletics Department has a contract agreement with the MSC Bookstore to furnish "required" textbooks for student-athletes whose grant-in-aid amount includes books. The term "books" includes textbooks, paperback books, laboratory books, class notes, etc. The course books, etc., must be specified on the course syllabus. The term "books" does not include consumable supplies, such as paper, notebooks, pens, chalk, paint, film and developing, lumber, clips, etc.

Athletics Textbook Procedure

The Athletics Department will furnish the MSC Bookstore with a list of names of student-athletes who are eligible to receive scholarship books. Each semester a member of the TAMU Athletics Compliance Staff will You are responsible for all books issued by the Bookstore and signed for by yourself. All drops and adds should be finalized by you and the Bookstore. You will be required to turn in books for any classes dropped before being issued books for any classes added. You must present a revised schedule to the Bookstore for the changes to be processed. All books(including used lab manuals with student notes) must be returned to the lower level of the bookstore by 5:00 pm on the last final exam day of each semester i.e. Fall, Spring, Summer I/10 Week, Summer II and Mini-mesters each have separate return dates

You must initial next to each returned item on the bookstore invoices. Ask if you have more than one invoice. Any books that you do not return will be charged to and paid for by the Athletics Department. Two types of blocks will be applied to your account. 1. Registration/Transcript Request Block: The Student-Athlete Services Athletics Compliance office will block you from making changes to your current schedule as well as from future registration and transcript requests and future book disbursement until you reimburse the Athletics Department for one-half the original cost of the book. 2. State Hold: the University will apply a state hold which prevents a person from receiving payment from any other state agency. You cannot receive payment for services or reimbursements for travel or goods from any other State of Texas entity. Other restrictions apply.

Summer Aid Policy

Summer class funding is not guaranteed to any student at Texas A&M. There is a request process to have courses paid for both inside and outside of TAMU. Priority is given to students who need courses for eligibility, graduation, or other academic reasons. If a student is using a course outside TAMU to meet eligibility requirements, it's a best practice to double check with Compliance and the campus advisor that the class will transfer and meet the necessary eligibility requirement.

There is an application process for summer financial aid. The application process and timeline will be shared by the Leadership Team each spring. Typically, this process begins early March. Scholastic supervisors are responsible for sending the application forms to their student-athletes and tracking that they are submitted by the deadline. The application requires information about the institution where they would like to complete the course and the cost of tuition for that class. Make sure to include consideration of in-state/out-of-state tuition and other fees in your tuition cost. This process is completed via an online form which includes a contract students must complete as seen below.

Once the application is submitted, the Leadership Team reviews requests and communicates approval decisions. The scholastic supervisor is responsible for communicating these decisions to the student-athlete and assisting them with the application and registration process. The assigned liaisons for each frequently used junior college will provide specific instructions unique to that institution. Payment for the course may be in bulk or need to be completed individually with the pro card. If a textbook or access code is needed, that can be paid for with the pro card as well.

If an official transcript from TAMU is required as a part of the application process, the student-athlete is responsible for requesting the transcript and paying for it. Once the course at the junior college is complete, the student will need to request an official transcript be sent to TAMU.

Additional information about the application process for each junior college is available in the appendix and at this [link](#).

A financial appeal form is available in the appendix if a student wants to appeal paying for a failed course or their transcripts.

Academic Incentive Award Policy

Texas A&M University may provide educationally related benefits to student-athletes. Specifically, TAMU may provide student-athletes with academic incentive awards (AIA) that have a collective maximum value of \$5,980 per academic year. It is important to note that even if a student-athlete meets the qualifying criteria to earn the AIA, student-athletes are *not* entitled to the AIA, which is not a part of any student-athlete's athletics grant-in-aid. The Athletics Department may choose to reduce, withhold or deny AIA funds if a student-athlete triggers certain conditions described in this policy or fails to comply with Texas A&M Student Rules, NCAA or SEC rules, Texas A&M's Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, written team rules, or other reasonable conditions imposed by the Athletics Department (e.g., cooperating with Texas A&M, SEC or NCAA investigations).

The maximum AIA a student-athlete may receive shall be determined by the student-athlete's athletic financial aid equivalency. A student-athlete whose athletic financial aid equivalency is between 0.25 – 1.00 may earn the maximum value (\$5980) per academic year. A student-athlete whose athletic financial aid equivalency is between 0.01 – 0.24 may receive an AIA that corresponds with their equivalency, or, a higher AIA if requested by the student-athlete's head coach and approved by Executive Staff. Furthermore, a student-athlete's eligibility to earn the AIA shall be based, primarily, on earning the Academic Progress Rate (APR) eligibility point and/or APR retention point each semester (e.g., for a particular term in which a student-athlete earns the eligibility point, a student-athlete on a full athletic grant-in-aid has earned half the possible AIA for that term; whereas, if that student-athlete is eligible and retained full-time, the student-athlete has earned the full AIA for that term). Student-athletes who earn both APR points for the fall and spring terms have the potential to earn AIA as follows (fractions will be rounded down—in other words, whole dollar values with no pennies).

Athletics Aid Equivalency	Fall Academic Incentive		Spring Academic Incentive		Max. Annual Academic Incentive
	Eligibility	Retention	Eligibility	Retention	
0.25 to 1.00	\$1,495.00	\$1,495.00	\$1,495.00	\$1,495.00	\$5,980
0.24	\$358.80	\$358.80	\$358.80	\$358.80	\$1,435
0.20	\$299.00	\$299.00	\$299.00	\$299.00	\$1,196
0.15	\$224.25	\$224.25	\$224.25	\$224.25	\$897
0.10	\$149.50	\$149.50	\$149.50	\$149.50	\$598
0.05	\$74.75	\$74.75	\$74.75	\$74.75	\$299
0.03	\$44.85	\$44.85	\$44.85	\$44.85	\$179
0.01	\$14.95	\$14.95	\$14.95	\$14.95	\$60
0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

AIA Criteria

To be eligible to receive an AIA for a specific semester during the regular academic year, a student-athlete must:

- Have completed one term of enrollment at Texas A&M during the regular academic year (i.e., summer enrollment does not satisfy this requirement);
- Be on a Texas A&M team's roster for the semester in which the student-athlete is to potentially earn the AIA (or have graduated immediately before the current term) and at the time of AIA disbursement (unless the student-athlete graduated and ceased participating in intercollegiate athletics or has been medically disqualified from further participation);
- Not have entered the NCAA Transfer Portal during the term in which the AIA has been earned or when it will be disbursed;
- Be receiving athletically related financial aid during the term in which the AIA has been earned;
- Be in good standing with Texas A&M University during:
 - The term in which the AIA was earned; and
 - At the time of AIA disbursement; and
- Satisfy at least one of the following requirements each term to earn half the AIA for a semester (or both to earn the maximum AIA for which the student-athlete may qualify pursuant to this policy):
 - Be academically eligible by having earned an APR eligibility point for the current semester; and/or
 - Be enrolled full-time for that semester after the census date listed on the official Texas A&M University Academic Calendar.

Finally, the Athletics Department may determine that a student-athlete who fails to comply with Texas A&M Student Rules, NCAA or SEC rules, Texas A&M's Student-Athlete Code of Conduct, written team rules, or other reasonable conditions imposed by the Athletics Department (e.g., cooperating with Texas A&M, SEC or NCAA investigations) shall be ineligible for the AIA.

AIA Disbursement

As part of the Eligibility Certification process, Athletics Department Staff's target dates for certifying all eligible student-athletes who meet the criteria for the Academic Incentive Award are as follows:

- **Fall Incentive Recipients:** no later than nine weeks after the start of the spring semester (note: fall Incentive recipients to include student-athletes who need winter-mester courses to be eligible).
- **Spring Incentive Recipients:** no later than nine weeks after the start of the fall semester (note: spring Incentive recipients to include student-athletes who need summer courses to be eligible).

If a student-athlete meets the specified criteria and is approved for the Academic Incentive, the student-athlete will receive an electronic funds deposit into their account. All funds will be sent via direct deposit to the student-athlete's designated checking or savings account.

NCAA Student Assistance Fund (SAF)

Per guidelines set forth by the NCAA and the Conference, the NCAA Student Assistance Fund (SAF) is intended to provide direct benefits to student-athletes but may not include tuition and fees, room and board or books for attending TAMU in fall or spring term. As a guiding principle, the fund shall be used to assist student-athletes in meeting financial needs that arise in conjunction with participation in intercollegiate athletics, enrollment in an academic curriculum or that recognize academic achievement. All student-athletes, including international, are eligible to receive SAF benefits regardless of whether they are grant-in-aid recipients, have demonstrated need or have either exhausted eligibility or are no longer able to participate due to medical reasons. A common SAF request from student-athletes is for the Athletics Department to pay for the student-athlete to travel home, and while this may be permissible, student-athletes who receive an athletics grant-in-aid that covers the full cost of attendance have already received funds to cover a trip home and will be presumptively denied the cost of a trip home through the SAF if they request it, unless they can demonstrate that they've already paid for the cost of a trip home on their own *or* the nature of the need for their trip home is of an unforeseeable, urgent and important nature. The Executive Associate Athletics Director for Student-Athlete Services supervises the fund on the TAMU campus. For more information, please call 979-862-6027.

Transfer Portal & Use of the One-Time Transfer Exception

For various reasons, students sometimes decide to leave Texas A&M and transfer to another institution. Before talking to other schools, a student-athlete must first enter the NCAA Transfer Portal. Entering the Transfer Portal requires the following:

1. Student-athletes (unless they are transferring to be a graduate student) must enter the Transfer Portal during their sport's window(s). Contact Compliance to find out when these windows are for both NCAA and SEC intraconference transfers. Student-athletes should notify their head coach of their intent to transfer.
2. Student-athletes must complete the NCAA's educational module on transferring before their names may be entered into the Transfer Portal. Link to module: <http://d1transfer.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/>
3. Student-athletes must complete the Notification of Transfer form prior to being entered into the Transfer Portal. Contact a member of the Compliance staff for this step.

A student-athlete who indicates a desire to explore a possible transfer from Texas A&M University will not be denied access to any Texas A&M Athletics Department services or benefits for the remainder of the current academic year if he or she has not been suspended under Athletics Department policy from his/her respective team. However, if a student-athlete explicitly indicates a desire to quit his or her Texas A&M team, or, if the student-athlete's head coach formally cuts the student-athlete from his or her sport's roster, then the student-athlete's head coach may indicate on the roster delete form the services and benefits that the student-athlete may continue to receive or not receive from Texas A&M Athletics, including but not limited to academic support services/Sinn Academic and Wellness Center, sports medicine services, Clark Nutrition Center, team locker room/athletic facilities/player lounge, strength and conditioning facilities, and complimentary admissions.

Transfer Portal Windows Information

SEC Rule for Intraconference Transfers:

14.5.5.1 Transferring within the Southeastern Conference.

A transfer student, including a graduate transfer, from a member institution may be eligible for intercollegiate competition during the individual's initial academic year in residence at another member institution provided the student provides written notification of transfer to the institution within their sport's regular NCAA transfer window immediately following the sport's championship segment (see, NCAA Bylaw 13.1.1.3.1)

NCAA Timing for Transfer Windows

13.1.1.3.1 Notification of Transfer -- Undergraduate Student-Athletes. A student-athlete may initiate the notification of transfer process by providing the student-athlete's institution with a written notification of transfer and completing an educational module related to transferring. Notification of transfer must be initiated during a period specified for the applicable sport. If notification of transfer is provided during a specified period, the student-athlete's institution shall enter the student-athlete's information into the national transfer database within two business days of receipt of a written notification of transfer from the student-athlete or receipt of confirmation of the student-athlete's completion of the educational module, whichever occurs later.

- In fall sports other than football, the student must provide written notification of transfer during:
 - A 30 consecutive-day period beginning seven days after championship selections are made in the sport;
 - or May 1-15.

- In football, a student-athlete must provide written notification of transfer during:
 - A 30 consecutive-day period beginning the Monday after the first Saturday in December;
 - or April 16-30.
 - Exception -- Participants in Postseason Contests. Student-athletes who are members of teams that participate in a postseason contest (bowl game, NCAA Division I Football Championship, College Football Playoff, etc.) may also provide written notification of transfer during a five consecutive-day period beginning the day after their team's final postseason contest.
- In winter sports other than basketball, a student must provide written notification of transfer during a 45 consecutive-day period beginning seven days after championship selections are made in the sport.
- In basketball, a student must provide written notification of transfer during a 45 consecutive-day period beginning the day after championship selections.
- In spring sports, the student must provide written notification of transfer during:
 - December 1-15; or
 - A 30 consecutive-day period beginning seven days after championship selections are made in the sport.
- In emerging sports for women, the student must provide written notification of transfer during the applicable period (30 consecutive-day period or May 1-15 for fall sports or 45 consecutive-day period for winter and spring sports) beginning seven days after selections are made for a recognized national intercollegiate championship event in the sport.

13.1.1.3.1.1 Exceptions.

- 13.1.1.3.1.1.1 Head Coach Departure or Athletics Aid Reduction, Cancellation or Nonrenewal. A student-athlete may initiate notification of transfer during a 30 consecutive-day period beginning the day after either of the following occurs:
 - The head coach of the student-athlete's team departs or announces departure from the institution; or
 - The student-athlete's athletics aid is reduced, canceled or not renewed (except as permitted per Bylaw 15.3.4.2 or Bylaw 15.3.5.1).
- 13.1.1.3.1.1.2 Discontinued Sport Exception. A student-athlete whose current four-year collegiate institution dropped (or has publicly announced it will drop) the sport (in which the student has practiced or competed at that institution in intercollegiate competition) from its intercollegiate program while the student is in attendance may initiate the notification of transfer process at any time by providing the student-athlete's institution with a written notification of transfer and completing an educational module related to transferring.

13.1.1.3.2 Notification of Transfer -- Postgraduate Student-Athletes. A student-athlete who will participate as a postgraduate student at another institution following the next regular academic term or academic year (two semesters/three quarters) may initiate the notification of transfer process at any time between October 1 and the end of the final period specified for the applicable sport in Bylaw 13.1.1.3.1 by providing the student-athlete's institution with a written notification of transfer and completing an educational module related to transferring. The student-athlete's institution shall enter the student-athlete's information into the national transfer database within two business days of receipt of a written notification of transfer from the student-athlete or receipt of confirmation of the student-athlete's completion of the educational module, whichever occurs later.

- 13.1.1.3.2.1 Exceptions. A student-athlete who will participate as a postgraduate student at another institution during the next academic year or regular term who qualifies for an exception to the notification of transfer

periods for undergraduate student-athletes (see Bylaw 13.1.1.3.1.1) may initiate notification of transfer consistent with the applicable exception.

Warning About Tampering

Tampering occurs when staff from other institutions initiate contact with a potential 4-4 transfer before the student-athlete is active in the NCAA Transfer Portal. The consequence of tampering for the student-athlete is the inability to use the one-time transfer exception at the school that is guilty of tampering. Therefore, student-athletes and those associated with them (e.g., parents, scholastic or club coach) should not attempt to contact other schools until such time as the student-athlete has entered the NCAA Transfer Portal.

Center for Student-Athlete Services (CSAS)

The Center for Student-Athlete Services serves all student-athletes, providing them with the competitive edge necessary to excel in their scholastic and career pursuits as they work toward their athletics goals. In fact, the size of the center allows for every one of TAMU's over 600 student-athletes to utilize the facility simultaneously.

The Center for Student-Athlete Services is located in the Adam C. Sinn '00 Academic & Wellness Center on 200 John David Crow Drive, next to the Bright Football Complex.

Mission Statement

Empowering Student-Athletes in their Pursuit of Excellence

Hours of Operation (FA 2024)

Monday thru Thursday: 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Saturday: CLOSED

Sunday: CLOSED

Center for Student-Athlete Services Rules and Expectations:

1. No tobacco, vaping, or e-cigarettes products.
2. No loud talking or profanity.
3. Cell phones are permitted for academic use only.
4. Headphones and cell phones should not disturb others.
5. Be on time, prepared, and engaged for sessions.
6. Be respectful to peers and staff.

Dress Code:

1. Wear Texas A&M or neutral gear.
2. All clothing should be appropriate for the learning environment.

Scholastic Supervisors

Scholastic Supervisors are responsible for monitoring student-athlete NCAA eligibility requirements and provide academic support services to aid in the student-athlete's pursuit of meeting and exceeding the minimum requirements. They also work with the on-campus academic advisors to help students develop course schedules and degree plans.

ACADEMIC ROLE VS SCHOLASTIC SUPERVISOR ROLE

Academic Advisor

The primary role of the on campus Academic Advisor is to assist students in meeting degree requirements and keeping them informed of any pertinent departmental changes or requirements.

1. Assigned based on major
2. Meets with student on campus during New Student Conference
3. Located in various buildings across campus
4. Student meets with Academic Advisor when they:
 - A. Are selecting classes before priority registration each semester
 - B. Need to be forced into a class for the upcoming semester
 - C. Have a question regarding which courses to take that will count toward their major
 - D. Want to have a course substituted to count in a different area on their degree plan
 - E. Have received notification that they need to meet with an advisor regarding their grades

Scholastic Supervisor

The primary role of the Scholastic Supervisor is to monitor student-athletes on eligibility requirements and provide academic support services to aid in the pursuit of meeting and exceeding the minimum requirements.

1. Assigned based on sport
2. Meets with student-athlete during team meetings and will set up individual meetings throughout the semester
3. Located in the Sinn Center
4. Student-athlete meets with Scholastic Supervisor when they:
 - A. Have questions regarding learning center hours or tutorial support
 - B. Need excused absence documentation for professors
 - C. Are struggling in classes and need additional help
 - D. Want to make sure they are meeting NCAA requirements for GPA and progress towards degree.

Mutual Responsibilities

Student-athletes should meet with both their academic advisor and Scholastic Supervisor if they need to Q-Drop a course, change their major, or need to add a minor.

Learning Center Program

The intent of the learning center program at TAMU is to supplement sound educational practices (i.e., class attendance, note taking, reviewing and preparing for quizzes and exams) that are imperative for the academic success of students. Academic sessions are not a substitute for class attendance.

A few points to remember about the learning center:

- Staff may not perform class work, complete exams, or write essays/papers for student-athletes, nor may student-athletes request a staff member do so.
- Students are only permitted to contact tutors and mentors in person at the Sinn Center or on Zoom during their scheduled learning center appointments. Students should not contact tutors or mentors through email, text, phone calls, FaceTime, or social media.
- Staff may not date or otherwise be romantically involved with student-athletes, nor should they socialize or otherwise interact with student-athletes they work with outside of the Sinn Center.
- Student-athletes may not provide Learning Center staff members or Learning Center staff members' friends or family with access to a student-athlete's complimentary admissions to any TAMU sports event or any other benefit.
- Student-athletes must come to sessions prepared (bring class notes, readings completed, etc).
- Student-athletes must be respectful and not disruptive during sessions.
- Learning Center support is a privilege and may be removed if necessary due to excessive no shows. The No Show policy applies to both in person and virtual appointments. Be on time!
- Student-athletes may not hire Learning Center tutors, but they are welcome to recommend tutors to be hired through the Center for Student-Athlete Services.
- If a student-athlete needs to re-schedule a tutor meeting, s/he must do so at least two hours in advance.
- Any virtual learning center appointments, including tutoring and mentoring, are recorded through Zoom. The Center for Student-Athlete Services may review the recordings of sessions if necessary to evaluate student and/or tutor conduct.
- Students should practice DRIVE in all virtual learning settings (mentoring, tutoring, class, CSTAT, etc.)
 - **D**ressed appropriately, **R**eady & Prepared, **I**n view of camera, **V**ocal & Interactive, **E**ducational Environment

Learning Services Positions

Learning Specialists:

Learning Specialists work with a caseload of student-athletes on learning strategies, test taking tips, time management strategies, and study skills. They also assist student-athletes with disability testing, accommodation paperwork, and coordination with Disability Resources. Please see one of the Learning Specialists if you have had academic accommodations in the past, are currently taking any kind of ADHD medication, and/or have been diagnosed with a learning disability.

Education Specialists:

The Center for Student-Athlete Services employs a full-time Reading Specialist and Math Specialist who assist student-athletes with developing and strengthening Reading, English Language, and Math skills. They also work with the campus/state Texas Success Initiative (TSI) to help student-athletes meet the college readiness requirements.

Mentors:

Mentors work with a caseload of student-athletes on learning strategies, test taking tips, time management strategies, and study skills. These are part-time staff members and therefore they are not allowed to have student-athlete's contact information or be connected in any way to student-athletes outside of the Sinn Center.

Tutor Coordinator:

The Center for Student-Athlete Services has a staff of approximately 75+ subject tutors with outstanding academic backgrounds. The tutor coordinator oversees hiring, scheduling, training, and monitoring the tutor program.

Tutors:

Tutors work with assigned students to help them understand the concepts taught within a course. They are not a substitute for going to class nor can they help a student with their assignments. These are part-time staff members and therefore they are not allowed to have student-athlete's contact information or be connected in any way outside the Sinn Center.

Texas Success Initiative

The TSI Assessment is required for any student-athlete lacking the SAT or ACT scores set by the State to show college readiness upon arrival. There are three sections: Mathematics, Reading, and Writing. This state mandated program is managed in house by the educational specialists in conjunction with the Academic Success Center on campus. For more information, please visit the Academic Success Center's website at <https://asc.tamu.edu/TX-Success-Initiative>

Learning Specialist Role Vs. Scholastic Supervisor Role

While the Learning Specialist and Scholastic Supervisor work very closely together to support the same student-athletes, their roles are distinct. Below you will find a breakdown of responsibilities typical for each position.

Learning Specialist

- Identify, assess, and work with high-risk student-athletes that may have learning disabilities
- Complete calendars, objective sheets, and daily reports for assigned students
- Train and recruit academic mentors to work effectively with Student-athletes
- Assist student-athletes in the completion of coursework, projects, etc.
- Schedule Academic Mentor appointments
- Work with Scholastic Supervisors and engage in verbal and written communication
- Assist with the screening and referral process for psychoeducational testing appointments
- Connect student-athletes with on-campus Disability Services

Scholastic Supervisor

- Determining/Ensuring NCAA eligibility, Degree Monitoring
- Class Scheduling
- Grade Monitoring
- Communicate with Coaches
- Communicate with Campus Faculty
- Communicate with Learning Center Staff
- Meet with recruits and their guests
- Meet one-on-one with at-risk students
- Request Tutors
- Travel Support/Proctor Exams
- Monitor student-athlete coursework, exams, projects, etc.

Late/No-Show Policy

Coaching staff may have an attendance policy for their specific sport, if so, it will be in addition to the policy outlined below.

An academic appointment is any learning center or tutoring appointment. This includes, but is not limited to, appointments with learning specialists, education specialists, and tutors. (This does NOT include TSI related appointments, that policy is described in the TSI section of the handbook.)

A student-athlete will be marked as a No-Show if he/she shows up more than 10 minutes late to the appointment, if he/she shows up but claims to not have any material to work on and then leaves or does not show up to the appointment.

If a student-athlete is late or misses an appointment and believes that the absence should be excused, he/she will have 48 hours from the time of the e-mail informing him/her about the late/no-show to appeal. The appeal form is online and, once completed, will be returned to the Scholastic Supervisor. The appeal committee will review the appeal and inform the student of the decision. For virtual submission of this form, please use the link below.

<https://forms.gle/wVFcwEUBNGuGAH9a7>

Consequences a No-Show:

Consequences of a No-Show:

1st – 2nd No-Show:

- An e-mail will be sent informing the student about his/her no-show.

3rd + No-Show

- An email will be sent informing the student about his/her no-show.
- Student-athlete will be charged \$25

A Scholastic Supervisor has the discretion to excuse No-Shows on a case-by-case basis. These incentives must be approved by the Executive Associate AD for Academic Services.

Coaches and Sport Administrators will receive weekly reports from the Scholastic Supervisor.

Class Attendance

Travel – University Excused

According to Texas A&M Student Rule 7.2, students may be excused from attending class on the day of a graded activity or when attendance contributes to a student's grade for participation in an activity appearing on the university authorized activity list. This includes intercollegiate athletic competition. The Texas A&M Athletics Department considers all absences to be unexcused, unless they are due to team travel for Texas A&M Athletics competition in the student-athlete's sport (this does not include unattached competition when the student-athlete is not representing Texas A&M—in these scenarios, student-athletes are personally responsible for seeking excused absence from their professors), a home Texas A&M Athletic competition in the student-athlete's sport, medical appointments organized by the athletic training staff, or prior approval from CSAS. For any excused absence, documentation must be provided to the professor for the absence to be considered excused. Student-athletes are not permitted, under any circumstance, to miss class to attend practice or other non-competition countable athletically related activities.

Professors should be notified by the student-athlete's Scholastic Supervisor via e-mail prior to the student-athlete's excused absence from class as a courtesy. Student-athletes must communicate with their professors about upcoming excused absences and arrange to complete all missed assignments. Texas A&M Student Rule 7.4 states that, if the absence is excused, the instructor must either provide the student an opportunity to make up any quiz, exam or other graded activities or provide a satisfactory alternative to be completed within 30 calendar days from the last day of the absence. The student-athlete must report any potential problems with completing required assignments to his or her Scholastic Supervisor before travelling with the team.

Class Attendance Policy

Class Attendance Expectations: As outlined by Student Rule 7, "Class attendance and participation is an individual student responsibility. Students taking traditional face-to-face courses are expected to attend class and to complete all assignments by stated due dates." The Athletics Department expects student-athletes to attend all classes and represent the department in a positive manner by being on time for class. The Athletics Department considers all class absences, including online classes, to be unexcused unless they are approved according to student rule 7 (e.g., Team Travel, sick/medical reasons). Documentation of the absence must be provided by the student-athlete to the instructor within 3 business days of the absence.

The following situations are examples of an unexcused class absence:

1. The student-athlete is not present at the time of an in-person class check
2. The student-athlete is not present for attendance taken by the professor/instructor

Process for Checking Attendance: The Center for Student-Athlete Services Staff will monitor class attendance using the following methods:

- In-Person Class Checks
- Progress Reports from Professors/Instructors
- Email/Telephone Correspondence with Professors/Instructors

Criteria for Being Checked for Class: A student-athlete may be checked for class if they fall under any of the following criteria:

- GPA < 2.5
- Freshman or first-year student
- Prior poor class attendance
- Individual team academic standards

Consequences of Unexcused Absences: A scholastic supervisor has discretion to communicate information about unexcused class absences to stakeholders such as the student-athlete's coaching staff, sport administrator, or the Executive Associate AD for Academics & Student-Athlete Engagement. Consequences may be decided by the student-athlete's respective sport staff based on individual circumstances. If students provide false information about an absence, they may be subject to further consequences, including a violation of team and student rules.

Appeal Process: If a student-athlete believes the information related to absences is not accurate, within 24 hours he/she can request that their professor/instructor send an email to his/her Scholastic Supervisor confirming he/she was in attendance on the date(s) in question. His/her Scholastic Supervisor needs to receive the email from the professor/instructor within 7 days from when the email was sent to the student-athlete regarding the unexcused class absence.

A professor/instructor response is not guaranteed, and a lack of response does not excuse the absence being appealed.

Coaches may have a more stringent policy in addition to this one, but it must be communicated in writing to the team at the beginning of the school year.

This policy specifically targets unexcused class absences. Academic appointments (i.e., tutoring, learning center, and learning specialist meetings) are addressed under a separate Athletics Department policy.

Equipment Checkout Policy

Please review carefully before checking out any CSAS equipment!

Laptop computers and calculators can be checked out at the 3rd floor reception desk. Checkouts must be signed off by their Scholastic Supervisor. At a maximum, calculators may be checked out for the semester, but laptops may be checked out for two weeks at a time. If all laptops have been checked out, a waiting list will be kept. If a student-athlete would like to re-checkout the laptop after two weeks, they may do so only if no others are on the waiting list; otherwise, they must turn in the laptop. Student-athletes will be charged if equipment is not returned on time or damaged in any way.

Calculators are checked out on a first come first served basis. There are 5 TI-84s, 2 TI-36s, 2 TI30Xs, and 2 HP 10blls available for checkout.

Procedure:

- All equipment may be checked-in/-out between 8:30 AM – 5 PM only. Equipment will be checked out at the 3rd floor reception desk after approval from the assigned Scholastic Supervisor.
- Laptops are due prior to 5 pm two weeks after it has been checked out. If you need the equipment past that time, you must re-sign the contract, given that no other student-athletes are on the waiting list. If there is a waiting list, you will not be able to re-checkout the laptop. If there is an extenuating circumstance, only the Executive Associate Athletic Director for Academic Services may extend this deadline.

Penalty for damaged items, late returns, missing items:

- After a late return, the student-athlete will need to obtain permission from the Executive Associate Athletic Director for Academic Services before he/she can check out any further equipment. A second infraction will result in the student losing the privilege to check out equipment for the remainder of the semester.
- **Student-athletes will be held financially responsible for the cost of any equipment that is not returned or is returned in a different condition than it was given. The penalty will be at the discretion of the Executive Associate Athletic Director for Academic Services.**

In an emergency, if you cannot return a laptop by the projected return date, contact your Scholastic Supervisor.

Exam Proctoring Policy

CSAS staff may proctor an exam for a student-athlete while travelling. For a student's exam to be proctored, it is best practice for the student-athlete to reach out to their Scholastic Supervisor at least one week prior to the exam. The Scholastic Supervisor will agree to proctor or find an approved proctor if they are not traveling. The Scholastic Supervisor will reach out to the student's professor to receive the test and instructions; this email should be saved for documentation purposes. When the test is administered, the proctor and student will sign a form to confirm when and where the exam took place. Proctors should follow any requirements the professor has set forth.

Our staff is also available to proctor exams for visiting student-athletes. In this case, the proctor will follow policies set forth by the visiting institution.

Change of Major

Student-athletes must meet with their scholastic supervisor before changing or declaring a major. When declaring or changing majors, there is a possibility that credits could be lost due to differences between the previous degree program and the new degree program. Losing credits could lead to a student-athlete becoming ineligible and scholastic supervisors look at this when helping choose the correct major.

Pre-registration

Pre-registration for currently enrolled student-athletes is held in November for the upcoming spring semester, and in April for the following summer and fall semesters.

Registration Blocks

To take advantage of pre-registration opportunities, student-athletes must be free of all registration blocks. Scholastic supervisors can look up holds or student-athletes can look on HOWDY to see if/why there are any registration blocks. To resolve the problem that resulted in a block or to appeal the placing of the block, student-athletes should go to the department in charge of the block. This link provides detailed information on how to view holds/blocks: <https://aggie.tamu.edu/registration-and-records/classes/checking-for-holds>

Add/Drop Courses

A class can be added or dropped during the first five class days of the Fall or Spring semesters or during the first four class days of the Summer term or 10-Week Summer semester. To add a course after these deadlines, approval must be obtained from the student-athlete's academic dean or authorized dean's representative.

Q-Drops

Undergraduate students will normally be permitted four Q-Drops during their undergraduate studies. However: **State law prohibits students from having more than six dropped courses from all state institutions attended during their undergraduate career if they entered higher education as a first-time enrolled freshman beginning the 2007 fall semester or after.** The symbol 'Q' is given to indicate a drop without penalty. Q-Drops in one-hour courses will not count in the Texas A&M limit of four **but** will be included in the State-mandated limit of six dropped courses. If a lecture and companion lab are dropped at the same time, this will count as one Q-drop rather than two. ([Texas A&M University Student Rule 1.18.2](#))

Information for Students

- Click [the link below](https://aggie.tamu.edu/getmedia/cd50e35e-0eba-47a5-b03a-c7568d73882a/Q-Drop_Form.pdf) for the Q-Drop Request Form that must be submitted to the major department or dean to request a Q-Drop. https://aggie.tamu.edu/getmedia/cd50e35e-0eba-47a5-b03a-c7568d73882a/Q-Drop_Form.pdf
 - Forms may also be available in your major department.
- You must bring the completed form to your major department for approval.

Student-Athletes (including practice players and managers) **MUST** receive approval from Athletics Compliance before dropping below 12 hours in a fall or spring semester. These drops will be forwarded to the Office of the Registrar by Athletics Compliance for processing.

Contact your scholastic supervisor with questions regarding Q-Drops.

If approved by the student-athlete's scholastic supervisor and the dean of his/her college, he/she may Q-Drop a course without penalty through the 60th class day of a Fall or Spring semester, the 15th class day of either Summer term, or the 35th class day of a 10-Week Summer semester.

Additional Q-Drops are allowed only in unusual circumstances as determined by the student-athlete's dean. If a student drops a course after the Q-Drop period has elapsed, he/she will receive a grade of 'F' unless unusual circumstances exist, as determined by the dean. The term "W" grade is authorized by the dean of the college if it is determined that such circumstances do exist. It will be forwarded to the records section for posting to the student's transcript. For more information click: <http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/grading-system/>

Incomplete Grades

A temporary grade of I (incomplete) at the end of a semester or summer term indicates that the student has completed the course with the exception of a major quiz, final examination or other work. The instructor shall give this grade only when the deficiency is due to an authorized absence or other cause beyond the student's control. When an instructor reports an incomplete grade to the Office of the Registrar, he or she will fill out an "Incomplete Grade Report," which is filed with the head of the department in which the course is taught. Copies are sent to the student and to the student's academic dean. This report includes:

1. A statement of the instructor's reason for awarding the incomplete grade and
2. A statement concerning the remaining work to be completed.

The remaining work must be completed before the last day of scheduled classes of the next fall or spring semester in which the student enrolls in the University unless the student's academic dean, with the consent of the instructor (in the absence of the instructor, the department head), grants an extension of time for good reason. If the incomplete work is not completed within this time or if the student registers for the same course again, the "I" will be changed to an "F" by the Office of the Registrar.

Transfer Credit

There are two things to remember when taking courses from another institution. First, prior approval is necessary to guarantee that the courses will transfer. Scholastic supervisors need to review the course and look on the Transfer Course Equivalency website to give prior approval. Second, if a course is not designated on a student-athlete's degree plan, then they should also get prior approval from their on-campus academic advisor to have the course substituted.

Course Substitutions

When taking courses at another institution, student-athletes may find that courses do not appear as predetermined options on their degree plan. In such instances, the student-athlete must make certain that his/her on campus academic advisor has filed the necessary form with the Degree Audit Office and made the appropriate amendment to the student-athlete's degree plan to indicate what degree requirement has been met by each alternate course. Failure to do so may cause the student-athlete to be declared ineligible for athletic competition due to not meeting progress-toward-degree requirements.

Scholastic Probation

Undergraduate students who are placed on scholastic probation (also called *academic probation*) should become familiar with the following:

1. University Student Rules, Academic Rules, 12. Scholastic Deficiency/Probation <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule12>
2. The terms of probation that are outlined in the probation letter or e-mail from the dean of the student's college

Student Rule 12 and the notification of probation provide the final word on probation and the expectations the college has for students on probation. You can learn more about probation from the Undergraduate Studies YouTube video, "Scholastic Probation." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kXrLMM2DK54>

Withdrawing From the University

A student who drops all in progress courses and courses not yet started in a particular term will be required to withdraw from the university. An official withdrawal is initiated by the student online in Howdy and is then routed to the student's Dean or designee for approval. A student may not initiate a withdrawal after the Q-drop period ends (see Q-drop periods: http://registrar.tamu.edu/Registrar/media/REGI_SpecPDFDocs/ADQDeadlines.pdf).

However, the student's Dean or designee may, in certain circumstances, initiate a request to the registrar to withdraw a student after the deadline.

- **Student-Athletes** (including practice players and managers) **MUST** receive approval from Athletics Compliance before withdrawing.
- After the deadline, deans may permit students to withdraw under non-academic extenuating circumstances.
- Withdrawals cannot be granted once final exams have begun.

For additional information about withdrawing from the University, see Part I, Section 17 of the Texas A&M University Student Rules.

Students are reminded that withdrawing from the University **does not** dismiss the repayment of student loans borrowed and may impact payment and grace periods. To learn more about repaying your student loans, please visit <https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/repayment>. To find your current loan history, see <http://nslds.ed.gov>. For questions, contact Scholarships & Financial Aid at (979) 845-3236.

Student-Athlete Programming

First-Year Experience

- **New Student-Athlete Orientation (NSAO)**
 - New Student-Athlete Orientation, hosted at the beginning of each Fall, Spring, and Summer semester, provides incoming student-athletes with information and resources about Texas A&M University and the athletics department such as the Aggie Honor Code, academy integrity, student conduct, financial aid, counseling and sport psychology, and nutrition. Students also complete several academic screenings and evaluations in order to assess their academic preparedness and learning styles, which will enable our Learning Services team and Scholastic Supervisors to provide customized and individualized academic support for each student-athlete.
- **Summer Bridge**
 - The summer bridge program supports participants through their acclimation and transition academically and athletically as they begin their career at Texas A&M University. Over the course of both summer sessions, students will be enrolled in one core class per session and/or six credit hours. This gives the student-athletes the opportunity to earn up to six credit hours towards their degree program and provides them additional time in a slower paced term to garner essential tools necessary to excel academically, socially, and professionally at the collegiate level prior to the official start of the traditional fall semester

Student-Athlete Recognition

- **AD Honor Roll – Fall and Spring**
 - Our AD Honor Roll recognizes student-athletes who have earned a 3.0+ semester GPA, and honors them on the field of a football game in the fall semester and on the court at a men's basketball game in the spring semester.
- **National, NCAA, SEC, and Texas A&M University Awards and Scholarships**
 - The Texas A&M Athletics Awards Committee nominates eligible student-athletes for many different academic, service, and leadership based awards. Aggie student-athletes have earned over \$250,000 in scholarships to fund their postgraduate education!
- **Legacy Awards**
 - The Legacy Awards is a maroon carpet event that brings all student-athletes together to recognize those who have excelled academically and/or athletically during the year. The event is designed to replicate a major awards show feel, with features like a photo booth, a live DJ, and maroon carpet interviews for both student-athletes and coaches. Featured awards include Newcomer of the Year, the Lohman Inspiration Award, Athlete of the Year, and the highly prestigious Distinguished Lettermen's Award.

- **Graduation Celebration – Fall and Spring**

- Graduation is one of the most important events during your time as a student-athlete at Texas A&M. Each semester, the Center for Student-Athlete Services hosts a Graduation Celebration to honor our graduates and their families. We invite coaches, athletics department staff, professors, and Lettermen to celebrate in this milestone achievement! Every graduate is presented with a special student-athlete graduation stole, diploma frame, and professional graduation photographs.

Academic Recognition Qualification Policy

AD Honor Roll

An undergraduate or graduate student-athlete who earns a semester grade point average of 3.0 or higher for spring or fall shall be designated a member of the “Athletics Director Honor Roll.” Official notification of this designation can be issued to the student by their scholastic supervisor and/or the Assistant Athletics Director for Academic Services and/or their designee. The following student-athletes may be recognized for this achievement:

- Current student-athletes on the active roster
- Medically retired student-athletes working on completing their degree

The following student-athletes may NOT be recognized for this achievement:

- Student-athletes in the transfer portal
- Student-athletes who have graduated and are back in town the semester following their AD Honor Roll achievement
- Student-athletes who are no longer on the team

Graduation Celebration

Student-athletes are limited to one time participation and must participate in the semester they are graduating in, pending no extenuating circumstances.

- Spring Celebration – Includes May and August graduates
- Fall Celebration – Includes December graduates only

The following student-athletes may be recognized for this achievement:

- Current student-athletes on the active roster OR
- Medically retired student-athletes working on completing their degree and/or graduate certificate OR
- Continued aid students AND those who have come back to finish their degree and/or graduate certificate

The following student athletes may NOT be recognized for this achievement:

- Student-athletes who were not on the roster the semester of their graduation
 - Not including continued aid or medical students

Student-athletes who will receive two degrees from Texas A&M are eligible for another diploma frame upon their second graduation.

Student-Athlete Engagement

The mission of the Student-Athlete Engagement unit is to provide Aggie student-athletes opportunities to develop through personalized interactions and dynamic and engaging programming focused on educating, equipping, and empowering student-athletes to gain the experience, knowledge, confidence, and connections for life after graduation.

EDUCATE – PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **FYEX 101 – First-Year Experience for Student-Athletes (Hullabaloo U)**
 - In partnership with the Office of Student Success and the Hullabaloo U program, Texas A&M athletics offers a zero-credit, first-year experience course for freshman student-athletes in the summer, fall, and spring semesters. This course introduces students to campus life by teaching about resources on campus and in the athletics department to help them have a successful transition academically and personally.
- **Traditions Night**
 - Traditions Night is a "Student-Athlete's First Tradition" where incoming student-athletes are welcomed to Texas A&M University and the Aggie Family. Traditions Night is a student-athlete led initiative and is an event composed of a walking tour of campus to expose incoming student-athletes to different traditions on the Texas A&M campus. The walking tour includes: Academic Plaza, Bonfire Memorial, the Quad, the Administration Building, and Kyle Field. Incoming student-athletes are also introduced to a few of the many Aggie traditions such as: the Century Tree, Silver Taps and Muster, the Aggie Ring, Midnight Yell, and the First Lady of Texas A&M, Reveille.

EQUIP – PREPARING FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

- **Career Coaching & Career Exploration**
 - The Student-Athlete Engagement team hosts 1-on-1 career coaching meetings as well as a variety of career development workshops throughout the year to expose student-athletes to topics relevant to their future including but not limited to resume and cover letter development, job searching and the job application process, the Aggie Network, graduate school information, and interviewing skills.
- **Brand U Professional Development Program**
 - Prepares student-athletes for professional opportunities through skill building, such as creating a resume, practicing interviewing skills, and learning about the power of professional branding. Eligible student-athletes for the program range in classification from sophomore to graduate student, with a combination of professional development and career coaching benchmarks that are required for them to receive a custom-tailored business suit or suit accessories package.
- **Student-Athlete Recruitment Mixer**
 - The student-athlete recruitment mixer is held once each semester and is a night for student-athletes and employers to mix and mingle about career opportunities. This night is meant to be less formal than a career fair, which allows students to come and go

as they please in whatever attire they feel comfortable in. Employers are sought out by the SAE staff member(s) in charge of career development.

EMPOWER – CULTIVATING LEADERS

- **Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)**
 - The main responsibility of SAAC is to serve as a forum for providing input to the Athletics Department, the SEC, and the NCAA regarding present and future issues, both on- and off-campus, pertaining to student-athletes. SAAC is also responsible for organizing Aggies CAN, the largest student-athlete run canned food drive in the country, with collections taking place throughout one week and concluding at Kyle Field the day of a home football game. SAAC is comprised of two student-athlete representatives from each intercollegiate sport and is led by an Executive Board.
 - **Selfless Service Ambassadors**
 - Our Selfless Service Ambassador Program encourages members from SAAC to serve as key community service liaisons within their teams. This program was created to help deepen connections and give student-athletes more autonomy when it comes to the direct impact they can have on their local communities through their service efforts.
- **Student-Athlete Led Affinity Groups**
 - **W(E)³ – Women Encourage, Equip, & Empower**
 - This student-athlete led initiative was created in an effort to encourage, equip, empower, and unify female student-athletes at TAMU through mentorship and creating developmental opportunities. Female student-athletes serve as the leaders of the group and are responsible for holding meetings and planning events to aid in the personal and professional development of female student-athletes.
 - **B.L.U.E.print (Black Leaders who Undertake Excellence)**
 - B.L.U.E.print seeks to provide leadership opportunities and a sense of community while empowering our Black student-athletes to use their voice. Black student-athletes serve as the leaders of this group and have been charged with providing educational and engaging workshops for its members as well as community wide cultural events.

The Clark Nutrition Center

In the Fall of 2024, TAMU Athletics opened the Clark Nutrition Center. This facility is located on the first floor of the Adam C. Sinn '00 Academic & Wellness Center. This is a one-of-a-kind fueling station that focuses on freshly prepared foods and allows student-athletes to customize their meals to meet their likes and dislikes as well as their unique nutritional requirements.

Performance Nutrition Services

Performance Nutrition services offered at TAMU include:

- Education
- Body Composition Testing
- Competition Nutrition
- Supplement Evaluation
- Recipes and Cooking Techniques

Other Sports Nutrition Services

Hydration Protocols, Recovery Nutrition, Special Dietary Needs (vegetarian, vegan, diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol, vitamin or mineral deficiencies, anemia, food intolerances), Disordered Eating Counseling and Rehab Nutrition.

Counseling & Sport Psychology Services

The mission of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services is to provide short-term psychological services to TAMU student-athletes to facilitate the development of the whole person. The Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff fosters mental health and overall well-being by promoting success in personal, educational, and athletic goals, and striving to establish a safe, welcoming, and multi-culturally aware environment that embraces and is inclusive of all differences. For more information go to www.12thman.com/sportpsychology

Services offered by Counseling and Sport Psychology Services include:

- Personal Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Career Counseling
- Performance Psychology
- Psychological Rehabilitation from Injury
- Substance Use/Abuse Evaluation and Treatment
- Screening and Assessment for ADHD or Learning Disorders
- Team Building Activities
- Mental Skills Workshops for Teams
- Consultation with Coaching, Training, Medical, and Administrative Staff

Confidentiality

All aspects of individual counseling sessions are confidential and protected by state law. No information will be released without the express written consent of the student-athlete or in instances where disclosure is required by law (e.g., serious threat of harm to self or specifically identified others, court order, child or dependent adult abuse and/or neglect, report of sexual conduct with a previous mental health professional).

Scheduling an Appointment

Appointments are primarily held Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. However, other times can be made available as necessary. Appointments can be made by contacting:

Dr. Ryan Pittsinger

rpittsinger@athletics.tamu.edu

Office: 235k

Dr. Lauren Craig

lcraig@athletics.tamu.edu

Office: 235D

Dr. Parker Leap

pleap@athletics.tamu.edu

Office: 235G

What to Expect

Services are free of charge to current TAMU student-athletes. The first session typically lasts about an hour and includes time for completing initial paperwork and discussing current concerns, relevant history, and goals for counseling. Follow-up sessions typically last 45-50 minutes and occur once every week or two. Sessions focus on processing emotional experiences, as well as discussing goals, strategies, and skill development to address concerns.

Sports Medicine

Athletic Training Facilities

Texas A&M Sports Medicine maintains the following athletic training rooms as well as a physical therapy rehabilitation center. The number and location of our facilities allows for easy student-athlete access to sports medicine services. Traditional athletic training, physical therapy, and sports medicine services will be delivered to Texas A&M student-athletes at each facility.

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Teams</u>
<u>Bright Football Athletic Training Room</u>	<u>Football</u>
<u>West Campus Player Development Center</u>	<u>Physical Therapy Rehabilitation Center</u>
<u>Aggie Softball Complex</u>	<u>Soccer/Men's Tennis/Women's Tennis</u>
<u>Mitchell Tennis Center Athletic Training Room</u>	<u>Men's Tennis/Women's Tennis</u>
<u>Paup Pavilion</u>	<u>Swimming & Diving</u>
<u>E.B. Cushing Stadium Athletic Training Room</u>	<u>Track & Field/ Cross Country</u>
<u>Davis Diamond Athletic Training Room</u>	<u>Softball</u>
<u>Hildebrand Equine Complex Athletic Training Room</u>	<u>Equestrian</u>
<u>Hildebrand Equine Complex Athletic Training Room</u>	<u>Men's & Women's Golf</u>
<u>Cox McFerrin Athletic Training Room</u>	<u>Men's & Women's Basketball</u>
<u>Reed Arena Athletic Training Room</u>	<u>Volleyball</u>
<u>Blue Bell Park Athletic Training Room</u>	<u>Baseball</u>

Pre-Participation Physical Exam:

A comprehensive pre-participation physical examination is performed on ALL student-athletes prior to athletic participation at Texas A&M University. Individuals are not allowed to participate in any practices, competitions, or strength and conditioning workouts until they have completed their pre-participation physical examination and have received medical clearance from Texas A&M's Head Team Physician. Pre-participation physical examination expenses are covered by the Athletics Department for all scholarship and non-scholarship student athletes. Texas A&M's Head Team Physician has final authority to determine clearance status.

Try-out participants must submit a copy of their personal health insurance card, proof of a sickle cell test result, and a copy of a Sports Physical administered by a licensed physician dated within the last 6 months prior to their try-out. Try-out participants retained by an athletic team will then have a pre-participation physical examination conducted by a Texas A&M Team Physician.

Practice players and participating student managers must also go through a medical clearance process including sickle cell trait screening, ECG, and physical evaluation by Texas A&M Team Physicians prior to athletics participation.

Exit Physical:

Following the conclusion of their final intercollegiate season or separation from Texas A&M for transfer or other purposes, each student-athlete must complete an exit physical with the sport's Staff Athletic Trainer. Any and all health care concerns should be disclosed and discussed at this time. If there are any illnesses or injuries related to athletic participation noted at the exit physical that require medical referral, treatment, diagnostic testing, or surgery, the Staff Athletic Trainer will make the appropriate referral(s). An exit physical is required to discuss post eligibility coverage (See Post Eligibility Medical Care Policy).

NCAA/SEC Conference Compliance:

Texas A&M Athletics must operate in accordance with NCAA and the Southeastern Conference policies and procedures for processes such as but not limited to Medical Disqualification, Hardship Waivers, Five Year Rule Waivers, Post Eligibility Medical Care, Medical Examinations, Medical Expenses and Medical Exceptions. Information on current legislation can be found in the most recent version of the NCAA Manual, NCAA.org, or by contacting the office of Texas A&M Athletics Compliance.

Injury/Illness Reporting Procedures:

Student-athletes at Texas A&M are responsible for reporting all injuries or illnesses to the Sports Medicine staff as soon as possible. Medical referrals will be made by the Sports Medicine staff as indicated and therefore student-athletes should not seek outside medical attention for an athletic related injury or illness without authorization from the Sports Medicine staff unless the injury or illness is a medical emergency.

When a student-athlete requires medical procedures or care which cannot be provided by a Texas A&M Team Physician, this care must be **pre-authorized** by the Athletics Administration. If this care is required during the summer, the student-athlete must contact their team Athletic Trainer in advance to receive authorization from the Athletics Administration. The Athletics Department will not assume financial responsibility for any outside medical expenses which were not pre-authorized by the Athletics Administration.

Medical Expense Information:

The Texas A&M Athletics Department has established guidelines for athletic medical expenses. Athletic medical expenses must be identified as permissible, by NCAA guidelines, in order for the Athletics Department to assist with payment. More detailed guidance and examples of common medical expenses can be found below. When in doubt, please direct any questions to your team-specific athletic trainer and/or the Texas A&M Sports Medicine staff.

- The Texas A&M Athletics Department will assist with payment for the treatment of injuries or illnesses that occur as a direct result of the student-athlete's participation in his/her sport.
- The Texas A&M Athletics Department may, but is not required to, assist with payment for the treatment of injuries or illnesses that directly impact the student athlete's participation in his/her sport regardless of the cause of the injury or illness
- The Texas A&M Athletics Department is not obligated to pay for the treatment of injuries or illnesses that occur from causes other than the student-athlete's participation in his/her sport.

Pre-Existing Medical Conditions:

Payment for pre-existing medical conditions is not necessarily the responsibility of the Texas A&M Athletics Department. If determined during the initial Pre-Participation Physical Examination that a student-athlete requires follow-up care for an injury or illness sustained prior to their enrollment, the medical expenses incurred from such care may be the responsibility of the student-athlete and/or their parents. Customarily, costs associated with the evaluation and diagnosis of pre-existing injuries and illnesses to determine participation status will be covered by Athletics. However, financial responsibility for treatment and follow up care will be determined on a case by a case basis by Athletics Administration.

The Athletics Department may, but is not required to, assume financial responsibility for injuries, illnesses, or other ailments sustained while participating in unsupervised or non-departmental sponsored athletics. All expenditures for health care must be according to standards set forth by the NCAA and are subject to review.

The Texas A&M Athletics Department will assist with the following athletic-related medical expenses:

- Medical examinations at any time for enrolled student athletes.
- Expenses for medical treatment as a direct result of the student-athlete's participation in his/her sport.
- Surgical expenses as a direct result of the student-athlete's participation in his/her sport.
- Medication needed due to injury or illness suffered during the student-athlete's participation in his/her sport or for medical conditions in which the medication is necessary for effective participation in sport.
- ADHD medication for scholarship student-athletes.
- Physical Therapy needed due to injury or illness suffered during the student-athlete's participation in his/her sport.
- Athletic medical insurance.
- Glasses, contact lenses, or protective eyewear for scholarship student-athletes who require vision correction in order to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

The Texas A&M Athletics Department may or may not assist with the following medical expenses:

- Drug rehabilitation expenses.

- Counseling expenses related to eating disorders.
- Injuries and illnesses that are not directly related to participation in the student-athlete's sport at the discretion of the Athletics Administration. Such injuries and/or illnesses must be serious enough to affect the student athlete's participation in his/her sport.
- Medical or hospital expenses due to an injury or other ailment sustained while participating in an unsupervised or non-departmental sponsored athletics (e.g., ACL reconstruction following a snow skiing injury).
- Medical or hospital expenses due to an injury going to or while participating in an academic class.
- Medical or hospital expenses due to an injury while participating in an intramural activity.
- Medical or hospital expenses due to a motor vehicle accident.
- Medical or hospital expenses due to a housing related injury.

The Texas A&M Athletics Department will NOT assist with the following non-athletic medical expenses unless deemed necessary for continued safe participation in sport:

- ADHD medication for non-scholarship student-athletes.
- Prescription medication for non-athletic related injuries and illnesses for non-scholarship student-athletes.
- Sexually transmitted infections or conditions.
- Cosmetic dental procedures, teeth cleaning, and any other dental work unless the dental work is directly related to an injury to the teeth that occurs during a practice or competition.

If the student-athlete does not have a primary medical insurance plan, the Texas A&M Athletics Department may review the case and assume financial responsibility only if the medical care is necessary to maintain safe athletic participation and payment of expenses are permitted under NCAA rules.

Medical Insurance Coverage:

The Athletic Department recommends that scholarship student-athletes carry accident/illness insurance while attending Texas A&M University. Student Insurance is available through the Texas A&M Student Health Center (<https://tamu.myahpcare.com/>) and can be obtained for a fee. This insurance will cover those illnesses/injuries not related to athletic events.

TAMU Athletic Department policy states that non-scholarship student-athletes must have personal medical insurance that covers athletic injuries. A medical insurance policy is available to Texas A&M students to purchase through TAMU Student Health. Policy information is located on the following website: <https://tamu.myahpcare.com>

International students are required by Texas A&M University to carry medical insurance.

If a student-athlete is covered under an HMO insurance plan, changing the primary care provider to a Team Physician will expedite health care.

The Texas A&M University Athletics Department is self-insured for athletic injuries. In the event of an un-insured scholarship student athlete sustaining an athletic injury, the Athletics Department will review and pay up to \$10,000 of the documented bills. ALL student-athletes are covered by a Practice Play Policy which provides maximum coverage before the Athletics Department assumes financial responsibility for athletic injuries. The Practice Play Policy is secondary to a student-athlete's primary insurance or the un-insured scholarship student-athlete's coverage through the Athletic Department's self-insured program.

Texas A&M University Athletics may, but is not required to, purchase a student athlete primary healthcare insurance if deemed medically necessary, cost effective to mitigate self-insurance expenses, or to fulfill requirements of Texas A&M University for International Student-Athletes.

Second Opinions:

Second opinion physician visits, specialists, and other services may be covered by the Athletics Department if approved and arranged by the Athletics Administration. If a second opinion is desired, this can be arranged either with a different Texas A&M Team Physician or with a third-party physician. The student-athlete and his/her parents or guardians will be solely responsible for any and all charges incurred with a second opinion if the appointment is not approved and authorized by the Athletics Administration. The Texas A&M Athletics Department may assist financially with only one second opinion referral per case. Additional medical opinions will be the sole responsibility of the student-athlete and his/her parents or guardians unless approved in extenuating circumstances.

Diagnostic Testing:

Diagnostic testing (e.g., x-ray, MRI, CT, bone scan, lab tests) will only be covered by the Athletics Department if approved and arranged by Texas A&M Sports Medicine staff.

Physical Therapy/Rehabilitation Procedures:

At times, it may be necessary for a student-athlete to utilize an out-of-town Physical Therapy facility. In such situations, the services may be covered by the Athletics Department if approved and arranged by the Athletics Administration. If a student-athlete decides to utilize Physical Therapy / Rehabilitation services without authorization, the student-athlete and/or parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) will be financially responsible for any and all medical bills incurred.

Vision Care:

Scholarship student-athletes are permitted eye examinations as needed to assess vision. If vision correction is indicated following evaluation, scholarship student athletes will be provided with contact lenses, prescription eye glasses, and/or eyewear suitable for athletics participation. Selection, purchase, and replacement of corrective eyewear should follow the Texas A&M Optical Care Procedure. Costs incurred outside of the scope of these procedures must be approved in advance by Athletics Administration or maybe the student athlete's responsibility. Injuries to the eye will follow the same guideline as other injuries to the student-athlete regarding referrals and method of payment for services. Appointments for vision care will be made through the sport's Staff Athletic Trainer.

Dental Care:

The Athletics Department will only cover dental costs for dental injuries if the injury is athletic related.

The Athletics Department may provide examinations and treatment of dental issues directly affecting athletics participation for scholarship student athletes. Custom mouth guards may be provided for all student-athletes through approved providers of Texas A&M Athletics. The Athletics Department may not pay for teeth cleaning, cosmetic procedures, and/or orthodontic care.

Prescription Medication:

Medications prescribed by Texas A&M Team Physicians for athletic injuries and illnesses may be covered by the Athletics Department. Prescription medications for athletic injuries and illnesses should be filled on-site via the in-house pharmacy program or GoldStar Pharmacy whenever possible. Other pharmacy retailers may also be used when primary options are not able to meet immediate needs.

Ancillary Medical Services

Ancillary Medical services (e.g., chiropractic, podiatry, massage therapy, physical therapy, etc.) may be covered by the Athletics Department if approved and arranged by the Director of Sports Medicine or their delegate.

Medical Emergency Procedure

The following protocol should be followed if an emergency occurs when a staff athletic trainer is NOT present:

1. Contact the Athletic Trainer in charge of your sport. The Athletic Trainer will then notify the Team Physician as soon as possible.
2. In the case of a serious, life-threatening situation, or if no Athletic Trainer can be contacted, call EMS.
 - a. Call EMS - on campus 911,
 - b. Off campus/cell phone - 911.
 - c. Then notify your sport Athletic Trainer when it is reasonable to do so.
 - d. If the student-athlete needs to be admitted, transported and/or cared for in an emergency room or hospital, the student-athlete is responsible for all charges incurred unless the injury is athletically related. If the injury is related to athletic participation, then the normal insurance billing procedure will be followed.

Drug Testing

Through the administration of a Substance Abuse and Educational Policy for student-athletes, the Texas A&M University Athletics Department strives to protect the health and welfare of its student-athletes. Therefore, the TAMU Athletics Department does not approve of, excuse, or condone the use, misuse and/or abuse by its student-athletes of:

- Illegal drugs
- Substances found in the NCAA's list of banned classes of drugs
- Prescription drugs when their use is not medically indicated
- Alcohol when used by minors or abused by any student-athlete

Drug Education:

At the beginning of each academic year, the TAMU Athletics Department Substance Abuse and Education Policy will be distributed to all new student-athletes and to any returning student-athletes who request an additional copy during the preparticipation physical examination process. TAMU requires all student-athletes to participate in the mandatory drug testing and education programs. By signing the consent form, you indicate that you will adhere to the policy and conform to the sanctions. Individual teams may have more stringent sanctions. The NCAA will require additional testing. Information on the NCAA Drug Testing Program will be discussed during your student-athlete briefing at the beginning of each academic year.

In addition, student-athletes must adhere to the following statement:

The use of any substance or medication, legal, or illegal, that impairs the student-athlete's judgment or perception or enhances athletic performance, without a documented prescription from a licensed physician, is prohibited.

Safe Harbor Program:

Consistent with the educational and treatment-focused mission of the Substance Abuse Policy, the Athletics Department has adopted a **Safe Harbor Program** to encourage student-athletes to voluntarily seek assistance for drug or alcohol use or abuse. The Safe Harbor Program is designed to allow student-athletes, without fear of disciplinary action, to initiate the process by which drug or alcohol use or abuse issues are identified, confronted, and addressed through voluntary participation in assessment, medical evaluation, counseling, and education. Participation in the Safe Harbor Program is confidential, and a student-athlete shall not be subject to penalties as otherwise required by the Substance Abuse Policy while receiving treatment within the program, unless there is reasonable cause to believe the student-athlete may be using a prohibited substance not disclosed by the student-athlete at the time of self-referral. To participate in the Safe Harbor Program, the student-athlete can notify their coach, athletic trainer, or a member of the Counseling & Sport Psychology Services staff of their interest in the program and an appointment will be scheduled. However, notification of the desire to participate in the Safe Harbor Program must be made **before** the student-athlete is notified that they have been selected for a drug test. Participation in the Safe Harbor Program shall be confidential. However, a student-athlete is encouraged to advise his or her head coach and parents or legal guardian of his or her decision to participate in the Safe Harbor Program. The maximum period of time a student-athlete may remain in the Self-Referral Program is 90 days. Student-athletes may request Safe Harbor twice during their

enrollment at Texas A&M University but only once during a 12-month period. A student-athlete may be removed from the Safe Harbor Program at any time if it is determined that the student-athlete is not fulfilling his/her obligations under the Safe Harbor Program.

Substances Subjected to Testing:

The Texas A&M Substance Abuse Program tests for substances identified by the Athletics Department that are purported to be performance-enhancing and/or potentially harmful to the health, safety or well-being of student-athletes, substances banned by the NCAA, and/or that are illegal under applicable federal or state law. Drug testing is performed by AEGIS Sciences Laboratories, Inc., Nashville, TN using a profiling system. Any, all, or a combination of these profiles may be administered on a single urine specimen. Each profile provides for detection of masking agents as well as the drugs listed below:

- The Recreational Drugs profile detects the following drugs:
 - o Amphetamine/Methamphetamine: Adderall, Ecstasy, and similar substances.
 - o Barbiturates and similar substances.
 - o Benzodiazepines: Valium, Xanax, and similar substances.
 - o Cannabinoids: Marijuana, THC, and similar substances.
 - (a) Note: The testing panel completed by AEGIS Sciences Laboratories, Inc. will continue to include Cannabinoid results but in remaining congruent with NCAA procedures, **any positive Cannabinoid test result indicated will not be deemed as “positive” for any disciplinary/sanction purposes specific to this policy.** Rather, any positive result for a Cannabinoid will be noted for notification/education/treatment purposes only.
 - o Cocaine/Crack and similar substances.
 - o Opiates: Hydrocodone, Oxycodone, Codeine, Heroin, and similar substances.
 - o Phencyclidine (PCP).
- The Anabolic Steroid profile tests for banned performance enhancing compounds (anabolic-androgenic steroids and related substances) in a manner consistent with the requirements of the International Olympic Committee and the National Collegiate Athletic Association.
- Specific Compounds may be isolated and tested:
 - o Synthetics: K2, Spice, etc.
 - o Ephedra/Ephedrine.
 - o Alcohol.
 - o Any single NCAA banned substance.

The NCAA has established a list of banned classes of drugs that are made available on their website: <https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2015/6/10/ncaa-banned-substances.aspx> You should not assume that the list of banned drugs is limited to “street” or illegal drugs or performance enhancing drugs. Some of them can be found in prescription and over-the-counter medications, such as cold remedies and in

various nutritional supplements. **Therefore, before taking any medication or supplement, you are advised to consult with your sport nutritionist, sport athletic trainer or team doctor.** In addition, student-athletes who refuse to participate in mandatory drug testing or who attempt to manipulate a drug test may render themselves ineligible pursuant to NCAA and institutional rules and regulations.

The NCAA Executive Committee has been authorized to determine the time and methods for drug testing of student-athletes. The NCAA may randomly select student-athletes for drug testing prior to or immediately following participation in NCAA championships. All student-athletes are subject to NCAA random drug testing on a year-round basis. The NCAA and TAMU Athletics may randomly select student-athletes from all sports on a year-round basis, including summer months.

Campus Information

General Services Complex (GSC)

The GSC houses offices that provide support in areas such as admissions, transcripts, graduation, billing, ID cards and more. The GSC is located at 750 Agronomy Road, College Station, TX 77843 on the corner of Agronomy and F&B roads. Hours of operation for the GSC are Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. For more information regarding the GSC, call 979-862-8018 or visit <https://sbs.tamu.edu/>

Memorial Student Center (MSC)

The MSC is a must know for TAMU students, faculty, and staff as it has just about everything someone would need on a college campus. Services provided at the MSC include meeting rooms, galleries, gaming and lounge areas, dining options including a food court, computers, the Barnes & Noble Bookstore, and much more. The MSC is located at 275 Joe Routt Blvd #2240, College Station, TX 77843, and is open 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM Saturday-Sunday during the fall and spring semesters. Summer and break hours are 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information regarding the MSC, call 979-845-7098 or visit <https://msc.ucenter.tamu.edu/general-information/msc-information-desk/#uc-facility-nav>

Open Access Computer Labs (OAL)

The Sinn Academic and Wellness Center has an OAL available to students during normal hours of operation. Other OALs are located around campus, including but not limited to:

- Student Computing Center (SCC) located at 400 Spence St.
- Blocker (BLOC) Room 130 located at 155 Ireland St.
- Business Library & Collaboration Commons (BLCC) located at 214 Olsen Blvd.

Detailed instructions for connecting to TAMU Wifi wireless internet can be found at:
<https://it.tamu.edu/services/network-and-internet-access/wireless-connections/tamu-wifi/>

Libraries

On-campus libraries serve as valuable information centers for students. Each library houses a broad range of books, journals, newspapers, microforms, and government publications. To get the most up-to-date information for each, refer to the General Libraries web page at <http://library.tamu.edu/>. The regular hours for each library along with their phone number and location are as follows:

Sterling C. Evans Library: 7am-2am

979-845-3731; 400 Spence St.

Business Library: 7am-2am

979-845-2111; 214 Olsen Blvd.

Medical Science Library: 7am-12am

979-845-7428; 202 Olsen Blvd.

Cushing Memorial Library: 8am-5pm

979-845-1951; 400 Spence. St.

Policy Sciences & Economics Library: 8am-6pm

979-862-3544; 1002 George Bush Dr. West

Writing Center

The University Writing Center has two locations: the second floor of Evans Library and the second floor of the Business Library. It is a free resource for students who would like consultation on a writing project. You may visit the Writing Center with a copy of the assignment and wait for assistance on a standby basis. However, to save time, you are encouraged to schedule an appointment a few days in advance by calling the Writing Center at 458-1455 or visiting <https://writingcenter.tamu.edu/Students/Make-an-Appointment>.

To get more information about on-line writing assistance and other Writing Center services and hours, please visit <http://writingcenter.tamu.edu/>.

Disability Services

Disability Services offers accommodations coordination, evaluation referral, disability-related information, assistive technology services, sign language interpreting and transcription services for academically related purposes. Although Disability Services does not offer disability evaluation and/or testing, tutoring, personal expenses, attendants or scholarships, Disability Services will provide resources and referral information. For more information please visit <http://disability.tamu.edu/>

Department of Student Life

The Offices of the Dean of Student Life strive to enhance your opportunities as a student to participate fully in the University experience. We do this by providing you with information, services, programs and involvement opportunities that facilitate responsible life choices and promote awareness of yourself and of your community. Each of the program areas within the Offices of the Dean of Student Life has a specific mission, but one common goal: to provide education, outreach, and support to you. For more information please visit <https://studentlife.tamu.edu/>

Multicultural Services

The Department of Multicultural Services is located in Suite 2200 of the Memorial Student Center. DMS has a mission to provide multiple developmental experiences to cultivate meaningful engagement, foster a culture where students can thrive, and develop students' capacities to work productively and collaboratively with others in preparation for an increasingly complex world. DMS supports all students along their journey to self-awareness, and role models and commits time and energy in contribution to the Texas A&M Core Values. For more information please visit <http://dms.tamu.edu/about-us/>

Transportation Services

Transportation Services is an empowered team of professionals dedicated to providing efficient, dynamic and innovative fleet, parking and transit services to the community. We support the teaching, research and public service mission of TAMU, with focus on customer service and communication. For more information go to: <http://transport.tamu.edu/>

Aggie Spirit Transit

Transit provides a variety of services for the TAMU community. On-Campus service is free to all students, faculty, staff and visitors to TAMU. On-Campus service consists of eight routes which move passengers from point to point around campus. A TAMU, Blinn or Brazos Transit ID is required to ride the Off-Campus service. Off-Campus service consists of ten routes which cover Bryan and College Station. Paratransit service is provided for our temporarily and permanently disabled students, faculty and staff. It requires that an application be filed with and approved by Transportation Services. Charter services are also available for university, student organization, and other local events. For more information, visit <https://aggiespirit.tamu.edu/transit/service.aspx>.

On Campus Parking

Students who choose to bring a car to campus are required to purchase a permit. Students may register for parking during the fall, spring or summer semester(s) during the open registration periods and the permit fee will be added to the student's fiscal statement. Students may also register for a permit in person, during business hours at the TS office, located in room 108 in the John J. Koldus Building, or by phone by calling 979-862-PARK. (7275). All incoming students need to be aware that parking is at a

premium on campus and often the available parking may not be immediately adjacent to their building or facilities. For more information about parking permits, or to view the Parking Rules and Regulations, please visit the Transportation Services web page at <http://transport.tamu.edu>.

Bikes/Alternative Transportation

As of November 18, 2017, TAMU Transportation Services requires all bicycles on campus to be registered and show proof of registration by displaying a permit to avoid enforcement action. Mandatory bike registration includes a required \$10 dollar fee applied to each bike registered.

VEO Bike Share

Texas A&M Transportation Services has partnered with Veo to offer our customers more sustainable alternative modes of transit around campus. More than 1,200 pedal bikes and throttle e-bikes are available for use by students, faculty, staff and visitors to campus. Bike share offers all of the benefits of biking without the hassles of maintenance and storage. With bike share you can leave your bike at home and enjoy the ride! For more information on this program please visit <http://transport.tamu.edu/Alternative/bicycles/bikeshare.aspx>

Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS)

In support of the mission of TAMU and the Division of Student Affairs, the CAPS contributes to student learning and development. We provide exceptional services and programming focused on student mental health. The CAPS exists to advance student development and academic success by providing personalized and evidenced-based mental health care to Aggies. Students may meet with counselors or psychologists in Student Services at White Creek during normal business hours (Monday-Friday 8am-5pm). For more information, visit the web page at <https://uhs.tamu.edu/index.html> or call 845-4427. For emergencies, after hours and on weekends, you may call the HelpLine at 845-2700.

Services

AOD/Addiction	Learning Disability and ADD/ADHD Screenings	Stress Management & Biofeedback Services
Career Counseling	Personal Counseling	TAO Therapist Assisted Online
Couple Counseling	Psychiatric Services	Testing Services
Crisis Intervention	Self-Help, Outreach, and Consultation	
Group Counseling		

Student Health Services

Student Health Services provides students primary health services and promotes health through prevention and education. All current students who have paid the Student Health Services fee are entitled to receive services at the A.P. Beutel Health Center. The Health Center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments can be made by calling 979-458-8310 or visiting the patient portal at <https://cas.tamu.edu/cas/login?service=https%3a%2f%2fshsportal.tamu.edu>. Visits to medical care providers, some laboratory tests, physical therapy, ambulance service on campus, consultation with certain medical specialists or health educators, and health programs and resources are available at no cost. Other services such as pharmacy and radiology are available at a reduced cost. For more information, visit the Student Health Services web site at <https://uhs.tamu.edu/index.html> or call 979-458-8310.

Professional School Advising

The Professional School Advising staff assist current and former students in their pursuit of a professional education. We currently advise students interested in Dentistry, Law, Medical, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, and Veterinary Medicine. We also provide a variety of resources that include information on professional school selections, the application process, summer programs, volunteer opportunities, workshops, and much more. <https://opsa.tamu.edu/>

International Student Services (ISS)

ISS serves as an information resource for all partners in the international education process, those both on campus and off. In addition to issuing documents for students to obtain non-immigrant visas to study at the University, the office works with other University departments concerning admissions and enrollment. International students are provided with counseling and information in the areas of immigration, employment, financial issues, medical insurance, adjusting to the U.S., and income taxes.

ISS strives to foster international awareness and an appreciation of all cultures by promoting cultural exchange between TAMU's domestic and international populations through activities such as dinners, seminars, visiting lecturers, and country displays. ISS also provides support to the more than 65 international student organizations on campus. Those interested in joining an international student organization can contact ISS for more information at <https://global.tamu.edu/iss> or 979-845-1824.

Texas A&M University Name, Image, and Likeness Policy

1. **Purpose of Policy.** Texas A&M Athletics is committed to supporting its student-athletes in their pursuit of name, image, and likeness (NIL) activities that result in compensation from sources outside of Texas A&M in accordance with applicable NCAA regulations and/or state or federal laws. The intent of this policy is to promote compliance with applicable laws and regulations, clarify student-athletes' rights to receive compensation for the use of their name, image, and likeness, and preserve student-athletes' eligibility. This policy is not intended to prevent or discourage student-athletes from earning compensation for their name, image, and likeness that is otherwise allowed.
2. **Definitions.**
 - **Booster** includes a representative of Texas A&M's athletics interests as defined by NCAA bylaws. A booster is an individual, independent agency, corporate entity (e.g., apparel or equipment manufacturer), or other organization who is known (or should have been known) by a member of Texas A&M University's executive or athletics administration to have participated in or to be a member of an agency or organization promoting Texas A&M's intercollegiate athletics program or to have assisted in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes or their family members. Boosters include individuals who have made donations to obtain season tickets for any sport or been involved in promoting Texas A&M Athletics, booster clubs, and NIL entities (i.e., collectives like Texas Aggies United).
 - **Co-branding** is a marketing strategy that combines multiple brand names on a good or service as part of a strategic alliance. For example, Texas A&M Intellectual Property + Student-Athlete brand = co-brand.
 - **Compensation** for NIL activities includes but is not limited to cash, free or reduced-price goods or services, checks or any other source of payment or value received for NIL services performed or rights conveyed.
 - **Disassociation** occurs when a booster is not allowed to interact with the Texas A&M Athletics Department in specified ways (e.g., no athletics benefit or privilege unavailable to the public at large) for a set period because of the booster's involvement in a Level I or II NCAA violation.
 - **Institutional Contract** means a contract between Texas A&M or its designated representative (e.g., Texas A&M Sports Properties) and an external party that includes a sponsorship agreement governing the use of the institution's trademarks in connection with athletics.
 - **Intellectual Property (IP)** includes but is not limited to trademarks, service marks, iconic landmarks, and copyrighted material that directly or indirectly creates an association with Texas A&M University (e.g., Texas A&M, Aggies, 12th Man, Kyle Field, Home of the 12th Man).
 - **License** is a right or permission granted by Texas A&M to use property, including IP, owned by Texas A&M, which would otherwise be impermissible without such permission.
 - **Licensee** is a holder of license.
 - **Multimedia Rights (MMR)** include but are not limited to the sponsorship and advertising rights of Texas A&M Athletics (e.g., in-venue signage, television advertising, radio advertising, print advertising, digital advertising, and social media advertising). Texas A&M Sports Properties/Learfield is the MMR-holder of Texas A&M Athletics
 - **NIL activities** include any business activity in which a student-athlete is compensated in any way for the use of the student-athlete's name, image, or likeness (NIL).

- **Official Team Activities** include the following activities that are arranged/scheduled by Texas A&M Athletics:
 - Practice and skill instruction in the student-athlete's sport;
 - Competitions (including exhibitions and scrimmages) in the student-athlete's sport;
 - Team travel to and from away-from-home competition;
 - Designated "free time" on a student-athlete's team travel itinerary shall *not* be considered "official team activities;" therefore, during such designated "free time," a student-athlete may engage in activities that result in NIL compensation.
 - Organized team promotional activities (e.g., photograph sessions);
 - Community service events and team-building activities;
 - Media activities;
 - Required activities that recognize student-athletes' achievements (e.g., banquets, awards ceremonies, halftime recognition); and
 - Institutional camps and clinics.
- **Professional Representation** for NIL includes but is not limited to representation by any individual or entity (outside of Texas A&M) engaged by a student-athlete for the purpose of securing compensation or benefits for a student-athlete's NIL activities.
- **Prospective Student-Athlete** is a student who has started classes for the ninth grade in high school (or a younger student who has received financial assistance or other benefits from Texas A&M generally not provided by Texas A&M to other prospective students) and who has yet to become a student-athlete at Texas A&M.
- **Staff** includes an employee of Texas A&M University, including but not limited to student workers, part-time employees, and full-time employees, regardless of whether they work for Texas A&M Athletics.
- **Team Contract** means a contract between a student-athlete and Texas A&M and includes any rules or expectations of the Texas A&M Athletics or the student-athlete's head coach that require a student athlete's compliance as a condition under the contract of participation as a member of the intercollegiate athletic program.
- **Texas A&M Honor Code** means a set of rules or principles governing an academic community to which a student agrees to abide when attending Texas A&M: <https://student-rules.tamu.edu/aggiecode/>.

3. **Responsible Office.** Texas A&M's Athletics Department's Assistant Athletics Director for NIL and the Athletics Compliance Office share responsibility for administering this policy and ensuring compliance.
4. **Compliance with Governing Law.** Student-athlete NIL activities must comply with federal, state, and local law, as well as The Texas A&M University System and Texas A&M University policies applicable to all students. This is a working policy in an evolving area and, as such, will be subject to ongoing review and revision as circumstances, laws and regulations change. **Texas A&M and its staff (outside of Student Legal Services) shall not provide legal advice to student-athletes with respect to their NIL activities.**
5. **Recruiting Inducements.** Texas law prohibits any individual or organization from: (a) entering into any arrangement with a prospective student-athlete for the use of the prospective student-athlete's NIL prior to the prospective student-athlete's enrollment at Texas A&M and (b) using inducements of future NIL compensation arrangements to recruit a prospective student-athlete to

attend Texas A&M.

Therefore:

- Texas A&M may provide NIL-related education to prospective student-athletes, including aggregate NIL data from an educational standpoint, if:
 - It is not conveyed as a promise or guarantee of what the prospective student-athlete will receive should s/he enroll at Texas A&M; and
 - The group upon which the aggregate data is based is not smaller than 12 because groups that small would violate FERPA insofar as it is easy to deduce the identity of the student-athlete in such a group.
- Communication between an NIL entity (e.g., Texas Aggies United) or other boosters of Texas A&M and a prospective student-athlete or his/her family/associates (e.g., NIL/marketing agent) before the prospective student-athlete enrolls at Texas A&M (i.e., admitted and registered for classes) is prohibited by Texas law.
- Texas A&M and its staff may not communicate with a prospective student-athlete (or his/her family/associates) on behalf of boosters or an NIL entity.

6. **General Right to Engage in NIL and Retain NIL Representation.** Like other institutions of higher education in Texas, Texas A&M Athletics and its sports teams may not have rules or team contracts, policies, etc. that prohibit or otherwise prevent: (a) a student-athlete from using the student-athlete's NIL for a commercial purpose when the student-athlete is not engaged in official team activities, or (b) a student-athlete from obtaining professional representation, including representation by an attorney licensed to practice law in this state, for contracts or other legal matters relating to the use of the student athlete's name, image, or likeness.

7. **Professional Representation.** Student-athletes may obtain professional representation regarding legal or contractual matters limited to their name, image, and likeness activities. Student-athletes may not agree (orally or in writing) to be represented by an agent for the purpose of marketing his or her athletics ability or reputation to secure an opportunity as a professional athlete.

Therefore, a student-athlete should not sign an NIL representation agreement until said agreement has been confirmed by Texas A&M Athletics Compliance as being limited to NIL, not extending beyond the student-athlete's participation in intercollegiate athletics and providing compensation to the representative for his/her services. Texas A&M does not provide contract review of proposed NIL agreements beyond whether a deal is legal and/or permissible; furthermore, Texas law prohibits Texas A&M and its staff from attempting to influence the student athlete's choice of professional NIL representation.

Finally, no Texas A&M staff member may:

- Act as a student-athlete's NIL/marketing agent/representative;
- Receive compensation from a student-athlete, an NIL/marketing or sports agent, etc. in relation to a student-athlete's NIL activities; or
- Attempt to diminish a student athlete's NIL opportunities from competing third parties.

8. **International Student-Athletes.** International student-athletes should not engage in NIL Activities without first securing guidance from the student-athlete's professional advisor (e.g., an immigration attorney) and/or [International Student Services](#) to guard against potential immigration issues. An F1-visa holding student-athlete who engages in NIL work while in the USA may jeopardize his/her visa and, therefore, his/her ability to remain in the USA.

9. **Consequences for Violations.** Violations of this policy may result in a variety of penalties and/or legal action, depending on the nature and type of the violation. The most serious (e.g., proof that NIL was offered as an inducement to a prospective student-athlete to attend Texas A&M or to compensate a student-athlete for performance/achievement/participation) may result in termination of employment for involved Texas A&M staff, booster disassociation, and ineligibility for involved student-athletes.

Furthermore, note that, according to NCAA bylaw 19.7.3,

“In cases involving name, image and likeness offers, agreements and/or activities in which related communications and conduct are subject to NCAA regulation, the infractions process (including interpretive requests) shall presume a violation occurred if circumstantial information suggests that one or more parties engaged in impermissible conduct. The enforcement staff may make a formal allegation based on the presumption. The hearing panel shall conclude a violation occurred unless the institution or involved individual clearly demonstrates with credible and sufficient information that all communications and conduct surrounding the name, image and likeness activity complied with NCAA legislation.”

10. **Required Education.** For student athletes in their first year of enrollment at Texas A&M, Texas law requires the Athletics Department to provide them, and require their attendance in, a financial literacy and life skills course. The course must be at least five hours in duration and include information on financial aid, debt management, time management, budgeting, and academic resources available to the student athlete. During the course, Texas A&M may not allow any provider of financial products or services to: (a) market, advertise, or refer the provider's services to a student athlete; or (b) solicit a student athlete to use the provider's services.
11. **Financial Aid.** Pell Grant, need-based, and other financial aid could be affected by a student-athlete's NIL-related compensation; however, a student-athlete's legal and permissible NIL compensation shall not serve as a basis for the University reducing, canceling or non-renewing a student-athlete's athletics grant-in-aid. All financial aid questions should be directed to the [Texas A&M Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid](#). Furthermore, the NCAA has specified that member institutions and their staff may not dictate how student-athletes use their compensation (e.g., may not require student-athletes to use NIL-related compensation as financial aid to attend the University).
12. **Taxes.** Compensation received for NIL Activities may have tax consequences. Student-athletes are responsible for all tax consequences and should seek advice from a tax professional prior to engaging in any NIL Activities for compensation. While Texas A&M Athletics may provide tax-related education to student-athletes, Texas A&M Athletics and its staff shall not provide tax advice to student-athletes.
13. **Disclosure of NIL Agreements.** According to Texas law, student-athletes shall disclose any NIL activity to the Texas A&M Athletics Compliance Office before entering into the contract (written or verbal):
- [CompassNIL](#) or
 - [The Amplify Local Exchange](#).

Disclosures shall include a description of the NIL activity, the parties involved, the value and nature of any compensation provided, and a copy of any proposed written agreement pertaining to the activity.

14. **Privacy of Student-Athletes' NIL Agreements.** As to Texas' open records law, Texas law generally exempts NIL-related information written, produced, collected, assembled, or maintained by an institution to which this section applies that includes or reveals any term of a contract or proposed contract for the use of the student athlete's name, image, or likeness.

As to sharing student-athlete's NIL agreements and related information to staff within the Athletics Department, student-athletes' NIL disclosures will not be shared with individuals *other than* Texas A&M staff who have an educational need-to-know (e.g., Athletics Compliance, General Counsel, the Texas A&M sport's sport administrator, the student-athlete's head coach) due to the Federal Educational Right to Privacy Act (FERPA). For that reason, Texas A&M will not share the details of a student-athlete's NIL agreements with sport staff other than the head coach or designee (note: designee's name must be provided to the NIL Unit and Athletics Compliance Office).

Relative to morality clauses in NIL agreements, Texas A&M and its staff may not provide any protected information to a student-athlete's current or potential NIL partner, including whether the SA is in good standing, in the absence of the student-athlete's explicit consent.

15. **Duration of NIL Agreements.** According to Texas law, the duration of a student-athlete's NIL agreement may not extend beyond the student athlete's participation in the intercollegiate athletic program.

16. **Prohibited Endorsement Categories.** Student-athletes may not engage in any NIL activity if any provision of the NIL agreement conflicts with a provision of the student athlete's team contract, a provision of an institutional contract, a policy of Texas A&M's Athletics Department, a provision of the Texas A&M honor code, or any NIL activity that promotes or endorses:

- Alcohol;
- Tobacco products, e-cigarettes, or any other type of nicotine delivery device;
- Anabolic steroids;
- Sports betting;
- Casino gambling;
- Illegal firearms; and
- [Sexually oriented businesses.](#)

In the event of any conflicts described above at #4, Texas A&M shall promptly disclose the conflict to the student athlete or the student athlete's representative, if applicable. The student athlete or the student athlete's representative is responsible for resolving the conflict not later than the 10th day after the date of the disclosure.

NIL deals involving AI software (e.g., ChatGPT, Cactus AI, QuillBot, etc.) are permissible under Texas law and NCAA rules.

17. **Nutritional Supplements.** Student-athletes remain ultimately responsible for inadvertent consumption of [banned substances](#) (including caffeine), possible nutritional supplement-related health problems, and noninstitutional consequences resulting from endorsements and promotions of dietary or sports performance-related supplements.

Therefore, student-athletes are encouraged to communicate with the [Performance Nutrition staff](#) or [Athletic Training staff](#) before endorsing any dietary supplements and sports performance-related food or drink (e.g., protein supplement, vitamins, recovery and hydration supplements, and energy drinks).

Furthermore, the Performance Nutrition staff encourages student-athletes to only consume supplements that are [NSF Certified for Sport](#) to reduce the risk of taking a contaminated supplement.

18. NIL Consideration and Terms. Legal and permissible NIL requires NIL-based consideration by the student-athlete. While a student-athlete's athletic performance may enhance the student-athlete's NIL value, a student-athlete's NIL compensation may not be in exchange for:

- No NIL-based consideration from the student-athlete (i.e., no NIL-based quid-pro-quo, something for nothing; failure by the student-athlete to supply NIL deliverables);
- Athletics participation/performance/achievement (e.g., scoring three touchdowns, placing in the top five at an SEC championship meet, winning the Heisman Trophy), roster-membership, or accepting an offer to attend (or reside in the area of) Texas A&M;
- Directly or indirectly promoting an intercollegiate athletics competition in which the student-athlete may participate (e.g., football student-athlete may not be paid to promote the bowl game in which he will participate); or
- The sale of institutional property (e.g., current Texas A&M Athletics-issued apparel, equipment, footwear, jersey, helmet, university-owned photo and video content, etc.) or awards (e.g., letter awards, post-season awards) issued to a student-athlete because of the student-athlete's participation in intercollegiate athletics.

19. Timing of NIL Activities. Student-athletes may participate in compensated NIL activities (e.g., NIL deliverables such as promotion of their NIL activities, wearing sponsored apparel/footwear), but not during Texas A&M official team activities (see above at definitions). Each sport shall be responsible for designating "free time" on its itineraries for away-from-home competition and informing student-athletes of when "free time" shall occur. Furthermore, student-athletes may not miss required academic obligations (e.g., class, exams, or scheduled tutor/mentor sessions) for NIL activities and may be penalized for missing or ignoring academic or team obligations for NIL related purposes.

20. Team Contracts. Texas A&M may not prescribe a team contract for an intercollegiate athletic program that prohibits or otherwise prevents a student-athlete from using the student athlete's name, image, or likeness for a commercial purpose when the student-athlete is not engaged in official team activities.

21. Use of Intellectual Property or Campus Facilities for Student-Athlete's NIL Activities.

- **Use of Intellectual Property.** Student-athletes may use Texas A&M intellectual property (e.g., uniform, registered trademark, iconic landmarks, copyright-protected product, or official logo, mark, or other indicia) only if:
 - Texas A&M Athletics (i.e., 12th Man Creative) and the Office of Brand Development has provided express permission for the use;
 - The student-athlete and/or the person contracting for the use of the student athlete's NIL comply with any requirements Texas A&M establishes, including requirements related to licensing; and
 - Texas A&M is compensated for the use in an amount consistent with market rates.

Individuals and entities may obtain licensing information and agreements from the [Office of Brand Development](#).

- **Use of Campus.** The use of Texas A&M facilities for compensated NIL activities is permitted only if: (a) Texas A&M has provided express permission for the use; and (b) the student-athlete and/or the person contracting for the use of the student-athlete's NIL has compensated Texas A&M for the use of its facilities in an amount consistent with market rates.

In order to utilize Texas A&M Athletics' facilities, see the rental information [HERE](#). For information regarding facilities not listed, contact specialevents@athletics.tamu.edu.

All commercial photography and videography shoots on University property, including Athletics' facilities, must be approved by the Office of Brand Development in advance. Before scheduling the shoot on campus, please contact licensing@tamu.edu to obtain the necessary permission and ensure the University's policies are followed.

Use of a Texas A&M University facility for NIL activities may not include use of any Texas A&M marks or other IP captured in any imagery taken during the rental. Images containing Texas A&M marks or other IP are subject to approval by Texas A&M prior to any use for commercial purposes (e.g., using such images for a sponsored social media post).

Furthermore, on-campus NIL activity that involves solicitation of orders, sales, rentals or donations must comply with Texas A&M's Soliciting on Campus Policy—which applies to all students—and receive approval from the appropriate offices (e.g., Department of Student Activities) before engaging in the activity.

22. Other Forms of Texas A&M Involvement. According to Texas law, Texas A&M, its staff (including those outside of the Athletics Department) acting individually may identify, create, facilitate, and otherwise assist with opportunities regarding a student-athlete's NIL activity.

- **Identify/create/facilitate/otherwise assist** means finding leads and opportunities for student-athletes and their potential NIL partners.
 - Only designated Texas A&M staff members (designated staff members shall not include coaches or non-coaching staff members) may assist with facilitating a connection for an NIL activity and educating outside entities on the NIL best practices at Texas A&M.
 - It would be permissible, for example, to provide student-athletes with introductions to an NIL entity or a team roster.
 - It would not be permissible to provide an NIL entity with information related to which student-athletes are recipients of an athletic grant-in-aid (or the amount). This would be a FERPA violation.
 - It does not mean acting as a marketing agent for student-athletes, negotiating NIL deals, or directing/encouraging potential NIL partners to engage in NIL with specific student-athletes because this is tantamount to institutional compensation.
- **Education Beyond that Required by Texas Law.** Texas A&M may educate student-athletes on a variety of NIL-related subjects, including but not limited to: marketing, entrepreneurship, social media, photography, and audio/video production.

- **Promotion by Texas A&M and its staff acting individually:**
 - Unpaid promotion: Texas A&M and its staff may, if there is no value or cost to Texas A&M or the staff member, promote a student-athlete's NIL activity and/or an NIL entity/collective (e.g., Texas Aggies United).
 - Paid promotion (e.g., Texas A&M or a staff member paying for the promotion of an NIL-related activity, or, providing access to promotional assets [e.g., radio advertisements, TV commercials and, in-game advertisements]):
 - May promote a student-athlete's NIL activity on paid platform provided student-athlete or NIL entity is paying Texas A&M the going rate for such promotional assets (e.g., NIL entity pays for advertisement on video board).
- **Requesting donors provide funds to an NIL entity/collective serving all sports in general is legal and permissible and mitigates the potential for creating potential Title IX compliance issues.**
 - Do *not* request donors, subscribers, etc. to provide funds to specific sports or specific student-athletes.
- **Interactions between Texas A&M staff members and an NIL Entity.**
 - It's permissible for Texas A&M staff members to:
 - Promote an NIL entity and donations to the NIL entity if there is no cost associated with said promotion.
 - Make appearances at an NIL entity's fundraising activities.
 - Donate autographs to an NIL entity's fundraising activities.
 - Provide donor information to an NIL entity.
 - Facilitate meetings between donors and an NIL entity.
 - Provide student-athlete contact information to an NIL entity.
 - Introduce a student-athlete to an NIL entity's representatives.
 - Arrange space on campus for an NIL entity to meet with a student-athlete.
 - It's not permissible to:
 - Provide personal assets to an NIL entity.
 - Provide institutional assets to an NIL entity outside of the NIL entity paying market rates for them through normal institutional policies and procedures.
 - Communicate with an NIL entity regarding a specific student-athlete's request or demand for NIL compensation.
 - Encourage an NIL entity to fulfill a specific student-athlete's request or demand for NIL compensation.
 - Attend meetings between a student-athlete and NIL entity.
 - Inform an NIL entity of a SA's scholarship status or amount of scholarship.
 - Facilitate meetings between a prospective student-athlete and NIL entity.

- **Subscriptions to, Investments in, Donation to, Purchases from NIL Entities or Student-Athletes' NIL Initiatives.** Texas A&M and its staff (including those outside of the Athletics Department) acting individually may *not* be the source of a student-athlete's NIL compensation. Therefore, neither Texas A&M nor its staff may subscribe to, donate to, or invest in an NIL entity/collective (e.g., Texas Aggies United).
- **Use of Institutional Staff and Resources.** In general, [Texas A&M System Regulations](#) do not allow for university resources to be used for private economic gain.
 - Texas A&M staff members may proactively assist in the development, creation, execution, or implementation of a student-athlete's NIL activity (e.g., graphic design, tax preparation, contract review, creating content, developing product or promotional materials, ensuring contractual performance, or otherwise participating in compensated NIL activity) if:
 - The student-athlete pays the going rate; and
 - The assistance (e.g., provision of podcast equipment or recording space) is available to the general public or student body on the same basis and terms.
 - It's permissible and legal for Texas A&M staff members to provide support to Texas A&M Sports Properties partners when the partner is engaged in NIL activities in the same manner that resources would be available to any other partner.
- **Institutional Support and Promotion for a Student-Athlete's NIL Activity.**
 - Texas A&M may not provide assets (e.g., tickets, suite to a donor as an incentive for providing funds to an NIL entity/collective (e.g., Texas Aggies United)).
 - Texas A&M staff may not have any employment, independent contractor, ownership stake, volunteer work with, or consulting for an NIL entity/collective (e.g., Texas Aggies United).
 - Texas A&M staff members may purchase items of de minimis value (maximum of \$100) that are related to student-athlete's NIL activity.
 - All Texas A&M staff members may promote a student-athlete's NIL activity if there is no value or cost to the University (e.g., retweeting or liking a social media post).
 - Texas A&M, as an institution, may not enter into a contract with a student-athlete for the sale of product related to a student-athlete's NIL.

Please note that Texas A&M's NIL policy is subject to change. Student-athletes engaging in NIL activity are encouraged to consult the full policy regularly and to direct questions to Jamie Wood, Assistant Athletics Director for NIL (nil@athletics.tamu.edu). If you have an interest in engaging in an NIL activity with Texas A&M University student-athletes, the following [NIL Request Form](#) will provide us with preliminary details for us to best assist you.

Relevant links

- Texas Law re: NIL:
 - <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/ED/htm/ED.51.htm#51.9246>
 - <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/LG/htm/LG.243.htm#243.002>
- NCAA
 - NCAA Interim NIL Policy <https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2021/2/8/about-taking-action.aspx>
 - NCAA Institutional Involvement in a Student-Athlete's Name, Image and Likeness Activities https://ncaaorg.s3.amazonaws.com/ncaa/NIL/D1NIL_InstitutionalInvolvementNILActivities.pdf
 - NCAA Banned Substances <https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2015/6/10/ncaa-banned-substances.aspx>
 - NSF Certified for Sport <https://www.nsfport.com/certified-products/>

- Texas A&M
 - Texas A&M Athletics NIL Request Form <https://12thman.com/form/108>
 - Texas A&M Student Rules <https://student-rules.tamu.edu/aggiecode/>
 - Texas A&M International Student Services <https://iss.tamu.edu/>
 - Texas A&M Scholarships & Financial Aid Office <https://financialaid.tamu.edu/>
 - Texas A&M Student Legal Services <https://studentlife.tamu.edu/sls/>
 - Texas A&M Athletics Facility Rentals <https://12thman.com/sports/2018/5/28/facilityrental>
 - Texas A&M Office of Brand Development <https://trademarks.tamu.edu/index.html>
 - Texas A&M System Policies and Regulations <https://rules-saps.tamu.edu/system-policies-regulations/>

MEDICAL POLICY

The Texas A&M University department of Sports Medicine is committed to providing comprehensive care in a professional, efficient, and service-oriented manner. Our dedicated staff of Physicians, Athletic Trainers, Physical Therapists and other providers will implement strategies to help prevent and manage athletic related injuries or illnesses while promoting athletic performance of all Aggie student-athletes.

ILLNESS/INJURY REPORTING PROCEDURES

Student-athletes at Texas A&M are responsible for reporting all injuries or illnesses to the Sports Medicine staff as soon as possible. Medical referrals will be made by the Sports Medicine staff as indicated and therefore student-athletes should not seek outside medical attention for an athletic related injury or illness without authorization from the Sports Medicine staff unless the injury or illness is a medical emergency.

When a student-athlete requires medical procedures or care which cannot be provided by a Texas A&M Team Physician, this care must be pre-authorized by the Athletic Training Administration. If this care is required during the summer, the student-athlete must contact their team athletic trainer in advance to receive authorization from Athletic Training Administration. The Athletics Department will not assume financial responsibility for any outside medical expenses which were not pre-authorized by Athletic Training Administration.

MEDICAL EXPENSE INFORMATION

The Texas A&M Athletics Department has established guidelines for athletic medical expenses. Athletic medical expenses must be identified as permissible by NCAA guidelines, in order for the Athletics Department to assist with payment. More detailed guidance and examples of common medical expenses can be found in Appendix A.

- The Texas A&M Athletics Department will assist with payment for the treatment of injuries or illnesses that occur as a direct result of the student-athlete's participation in his/her sport.
- The Texas A&M Athletics Department may, but is not required to, assist with payment for the treatment of injuries or illnesses that directly impact the student athlete's participation in his/her sport regardless of the cause of the injury or illness
- The Texas A&M Athletics Department is not obligated to pay for the treatment of injuries or illnesses that occur from causes other than the student-athlete's participation in his/her sport.

PRE-EXISTING MEDICAL INFORMATION

Payment for pre-existing medical conditions is not necessarily the responsibility of the Texas A&M Athletics Department. If determined during the initial Pre-Participation Physical Examination that a student-athlete requires follow-up care for an injury or illness sustained prior to their enrollment, the medical expenses incurred from such care may be the responsibility of the student-athlete and/or their parents. Customarily, costs associated with the evaluation and diagnosis of pre-existing injuries and illnesses to determine participation status will be covered by Athletics. However, financial responsibility for treatment and follow up care will be determined on a case by a case basis by Athletic Training Administration.

The Athletics Department may, but is not required to, assume financial responsibility for injuries, illnesses, or other ailments sustained while participating in unsupervised or non-departmental sponsored athletics. All expenditures for health care must be according to standards set forth by the NCAA and are subject to review.

MEDICAL INSURANCE COVERAGE

The Texas A&M University Athletics Department is self-insured for athletic injuries. In the event of an uninsured scholarship student athlete sustaining an athletic injury, the Athletics Department will review and pay up to \$10,000 of the documented bills. ALL student-athletes are covered by a Practice Play Policy which covers expenses greater than \$10,000 for athletic injuries. The primary insurance plan for a student-athlete must pay maximum coverage before the Athletics Department assumes financial responsibility for athletic injuries. The Practice Play Policy is secondary to a student-athlete's primary insurance or the uninsured scholarship student-athlete's coverage through the Athletic Department's self-insured program.

Texas A&M University Athletics may, but is not required to, purchase a scholarship student athlete primary healthcare insurance if deemed medically necessary, cost effective to mitigate self-insurance expenses, or to fulfill requirements of Texas A&M University for International Student-Athletes.

Non-scholarship student-athletes are required to have primary healthcare insurance. Plans are available for purchase through Texas A&M Student Health if the non-scholarship student-athlete is not otherwise insured. The student-athlete should contact their team athletic trainer for assistance in purchasing the appropriate plan.

SECOND OPINIONS

Second opinion physician visits, specialists, and other services may be covered by the Athletics Department if approved and arranged by Athletic Training Administration. If a second opinion is desired, this can be arranged either with a different Texas A&M Team Physician or with a third-party physician. The student-athlete and his/her parents or guardians will be solely responsible for any and all charges incurred with a second opinion if the appointment is not approved and authorized by Athletic Training Administration. The Texas A&M Athletics Department may assist financially with only one second opinion referral per case. Additional medical opinions will be the sole responsibility of the student-athlete and his/her parents or guardians unless approved in extenuating circumstances.

DIAGNOSTIC TESTING

Diagnostic testing (i.e. x-ray, MRI, CT, bone scan, lab tests, etc.) will only be covered by the Athletics Department if approved and arranged by Texas A&M Sports Medicine staff.

PHYSICAL THERAPY/REHABILITATION PROCEDURES

At times, it may be necessary for a student-athlete to utilize an out-of-town Physical Therapy facility. In such situations, the services may be covered by the Athletics Department if approved and arranged by Athletic Training Administration. If a student-athlete decides to utilize Physical Therapy/Rehabilitation services without authorization, the student-athlete and/or parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) will be financially responsible for any and all medical bills incurred.

VISION CARE

Scholarship student-athletes are permitted eye examinations as needed to assess vision. If vision correction is indicated following evaluation, scholarship student athletes will be provided with contact lenses, prescription eye glasses, and/or eyewear suitable for athletics participation. Selection, purchase, and replacement of corrective eyewear should follow the Texas A&M Optical Care Policy. Costs incurred outside of the scope of these procedures must be approved in advance by Athletic Training Administration or it may become the student athlete's responsibility. Injuries to the eye will follow the same guideline as other injuries to the student-athlete regarding referrals and method of payment for services. Appointments for vision care will be made through the sport's staff athletic trainer.

DENTAL CARE

The Athletics Department will only cover dental costs for dental injuries if the injury is athletic related. The Athletics Department may provide examinations and treatment of dental issues directly affecting athletics participation for scholarship student athletes. Custom mouth guards may be provided for all student-athletes through approved providers of Texas A&M Athletics. The Athletics Department may not pay for teeth cleaning, cosmetic procedures, and/or orthodontic care.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION

Medications prescribed by Texas A&M Team Physicians for athletic injuries and illnesses, may be covered by the Athletics Department. Prescription medications for athletic injuries and illnesses should be filled on-site via the in-house pharmacy program or GoldStar Pharmacy whenever possible. Other pharmacy retailers may also be used when primary options are not able to meet immediate needs.

PRE-PARTICIPATION PHYSICAL EXAM

A comprehensive pre-participation physical examination is performed on ALL student-athletes prior to athletic participation at Texas A&M University. These individuals are not allowed to participate in any practices, competitions, or strength and conditioning workouts until they have completed their pre-participation physical examination and have received medical clearance from Texas A&M's Head Team Physician. Pre-participation physical examination expenses are covered by the Athletics Department for all scholarship and non-scholarship

student athletes. The following tests/exams are required for medical clearance: vitals, lab work including a sickle cell test, ECG, echo and medical examination by a Texas A&M physician. The Texas A&M Head Team Physician has final authority to determine clearance status.

Try-out participants must submit a copy of their personal health insurance card, proof of a sickle cell test result, and a copy of a Sports Physical administered by a licensed physician dated within the last 6 months prior to their try-out. Try-out participants retained by an athletic team will then have a pre-participation physical examination conducted by a Texas A&M Team Physician.

Practice players must also go through a medical clearance process including sickle cell trait screening, ECG, and physical evaluation by Texas A&M Team Physicians prior to athletics participation.

EXIT PHYSICAL

Following the conclusion of their final season of eligibility, each student-athlete must complete an exit physical with the sport's staff athletic trainer. Any and all health care concerns should be disclosed and discussed at this time. If there are any illnesses or injuries related to athletic participation noted at the exit physical that require medical referral, treatment, diagnostic testing, or surgery, the staff athletic trainer will make the appropriate referral(s). An exit physical is required to discuss post eligibility coverage (See Post Eligibility Medical Care Policy). If student-athletes fail to complete the exit physical process, they may forgo their right to follow-up care.

NCAA/SEC CONFERENCE COMPLIANCE

Texas A&M Athletics must operate in accordance with NCAA and Southeastern Conference policies and procedures for processes such as but not limited to Medical Disqualification, Hardship Waivers, Five Year Rule Waivers, Post Eligibility Medical Care, Medical Examinations, Medical Expenses and Medical Exceptions. Information on current legislation can be found in the most recent version of the NCAA Manual, NCAA.org, or by contacting the Texas A&M Athletics Compliance office.

Appendix A

The Texas A&M Athletics Department will assist with the following athletic-related medical expenses:

- Medical examinations at any time for enrolled student athletes.
- Expenses for medical treatment as a direct result of the student-athlete's participation in his/her sport.
- Surgical expenses as a direct result of the student-athlete's participation in his/her sport.
- Medication needed due to injury or illness suffered during the student-athlete's participation in his/her sport or for medical conditions in which the medication is necessary for effective participation in sport (i.e., insulin).
- ADHD medication for scholarship student-athletes.
- Physical Therapy needed due to injury or illness suffered during the student-athlete's participation in his/her sport.
- Athletic medical insurance.
- Glasses, contact lenses, or protective eyewear for scholarship student-athletes who require vision correction to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

The Texas A&M Athletics Department might assist with the following medical expenses:

- Drug rehabilitation expenses.
- Counseling expenses related to eating disorders.
- Injuries and illnesses that are not directly related to participation in the student-athlete's sport at the discretion of the Athletics Administration. Such injuries and/or illnesses must be serious enough to affect the student athlete's participation in his/her sport.
- Surgical expenses to treat a non-athletic related illness or injury (i.e., appendix rupture).
- Medical or hospital expenses due to an injury or other ailment sustained while participating in an unsupervised or non-departmental sponsored athletics event (i.e., ACL reconstruction following a snow skiing injury).
- Medical or hospital expenses due to an injury going to or while participating in an academic class.
- Medical or hospital expenses due to an injury while participating in an intramural activity.
- Medical or hospital expenses due to a motor vehicle accident.
- Medical or hospital expenses due to a housing related injury.

The Texas A&M Athletics Department will NOT assist with the following non-athletic medical expenses unless deemed necessary for continued safe participation in sport:

- ADHD medication for non-scholarship student-athletes.
- Prescription medication for non-athletic related injuries and illnesses for non-scholarship student-athletes
- Sexually transmitted infections or conditions.
- Cosmetic dental procedures, teeth cleaning, and any other dental work unless the dental work is directly related to an injury to the teeth that occurs during a practice or competition.

If the student-athlete does not have a primary medical insurance plan, the Texas A&M Athletics Department may review the case and assume financial responsibility only if the medical care is necessary to maintain safe athletic participation and payment of expenses are permitted under NCAA rules.

ADHD DIAGNOSIS & MANAGEMENT POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is one of the most common neurobiological disorders of childhood and often continues through adolescence and adulthood. Treatment and management of ADHD requires a multi-disciplinary approach that often includes a combination of cognitive-behavioral strategies employed through Academic Services and psychotherapy/medication treatment employed through Sports Medicine and Sport Psychology. Medication therapy, if utilized, often requires the use of stimulant medications which are banned by the NCAA. Therefore, a rigid testing, referral and documentation process must be followed by Athletic Department staff in order to ensure compliance with all NCAA requirements.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the procedure through which proper screening, evaluation and testing shall take place for Texas A&M student-athletes suspected of having ADHD and the medication therapy procedure that must be followed for student-athletes wishing to take stimulant medication to assist with the treatment of ADHD symptoms.

EVALUATION PROCESS

Student-athlete evaluation for ADHD and other potential learning disabilities is completed by the Texas A&M Center for Student-Athlete Services and the Texas A&M Athletics Counseling & Sport Psychology Team. Below is a detailed description of the assessment referral procedures:

COUNSELING & SPORT PSYCHOLOGY SERVICES (CSPS) ASSESSMENT REFERRAL PROCESS

FOR ALL INCOMING FRESHMEN/TRANSFER STUDENT-ATHLETES

- When your student-athlete first arrives on campus, please ask whether they have any history of testing or previous diagnoses of ADHD or a Learning Disorder that they have received academic accommodations for.
 - o If they indicate either a history of testing or a previous diagnosis, please ask them to provide any previous testing or diagnostic documentation they are able to.
 - o Please email any previous records received to Dr. Lauren Craig (LCraig@athletics.tamu.edu) and upload to the EMR
 - o Dr. Craig will review any received assessment records and will communicate with sport medicine staff to either confirm that the previous assessment records are sufficient for NCAA standards or communicate that further assessment is needed.
 - Make note in EMR that the records were reviewed by Dr. Craig and are sufficient or additional information is needed.
 - o If further assessment is needed, Dr. Craig will coordinate with the student-athlete's academic support staff (Director of Learning Services, Michelle Stout or designee and/or the student-athletes scholastic supervisor) for availability and appointment scheduling.

REFERRING A STUDENT-ATHLETE AT ANY OTHER TIME

- If at any time, you have concerns that a student-athlete is experiencing attention related difficulties or you feel they could benefit from academic accommodations, please refer them to both CSPS and the academic department by emailing Dr. Craig (LCraig@athletics.tamu.edu) and copying Ms. Michelle Stout (MStout@athletics.tamu.edu). Once referred, the student-athlete will first complete a screening appointment to determine whether full assessment is warranted or would be beneficial. To complete the screening appointment, the following process will occur:
 - o **Step 1: Screening Appointment:**
 - ☐ Dr. Craig will coordinate with the student-athlete's academic support staff (Director of Learning Services, Michelle Stout or designee and/or the student-athlete's scholastic supervisor) for availability and appointment scheduling.

- ☐ Dr. Craig will complete the screening appointment (takes approximately 1.0 – 1.5 hours and will include a clinical interview and completion of the CPT-3, CAARS Self Report, and WRAT-5).
- ☐ After completion of the screening appointment, Dr. Craig will score all measures and will coordinate with the student athlete's academic support staff to schedule a short (no more than 30 minutes) feedback appointment with the student-athlete. During the feedback appointment, Dr. Craig will review the results of the screening measures and discuss any recommendations for further testing if warranted.

o **Step 2 (if necessary): Full Assessment Appointment(s):**

- ☐ If further testing is warranted, Dr. Craig will once again coordinate with the student-athlete's academic support staff (Director of Learning Services, Michelle Stout or designee and/or the student-athlete's scholastic supervisor) for availability and appointment scheduling.
- ☐ Dr. Craig will complete the assessment appointment(s) (takes approximately 3.5 - 4.0 hours and will include completion of the WAIS-IV, WIAT-4, BASC-3, SCL-90, and LASSI. Scores from the previously completed CPT-3 and CAARS Self Report will also be included in the full assessment report).
- ☐ After completion of the assessment appointment(s), Dr. Craig will score all measures and will coordinate with the student athlete's academic support staff to schedule a short (no more than 30 minutes) feedback appointment with the student-athlete. During the feedback appointment, Dr. Craig will review the results of the assessment measures and discuss any recommendations with the student-athlete.
- ☐ After completion of the feedback appointment, Dr. Craig will send copies of the full assessment report to the student-athlete's athletic trainer and Ms. Michelle Stout and/or designee. The student -athlete will be copied on both emails so that they have a copy of their assessment report provided to them as well.

The following is an outline of the Stages of Evaluation & Testing through Texas A&M Student-Athlete Services:



Center for Student-Athlete Services Educational Evaluation Process

Stage A – Initial Screening

- Administered By:
 - o Learning Services Team at NSAO for ALL Incoming Student Athletes
- Includes:
 - o Consent Form
 - o Previous Documentation Review
 - o Academic History Review
 - o Nelson-Denny Reading Test
 - o ASRS-v1.1
 - o Writing Sample
 - o TSI Status
- Recommendations Possible:
 - o Move on to Stage B
 - o Finished with Educational Evaluation Process

Stage B

- Administered By:
 - o Athletics' Counseling & Sport Psychology Team
- Includes:
 - o Behavioral Assessment System for Children - 3rd edition College Form (BASC-3)
 - o Connors Adult ADHD Rating Scale (CAARS-S: L) Self Report
 - o Connors Continuous Performance Test - 3rd Edition (CPT-III)
 - o Wide Range Achievement Test 5th Edition (WRAT-5)
 - o Clinical Interview
- Recommendations Possible:
 - o Move on to Stage C
 - o Finished with Educational Evaluation Process

Stage C – Full Battery

- Administered By:
 - o Athletics' Counseling & Sport Psychology Team
- Can Include:
 - o Cognitive/Intelligence Test
 - o Attention Assessment (Self-Report & Performance Measures)
 - o Behavioral/Personality Assessment
 - o Clinical Interview with Student
 - o Questionnaires completed by Parent/Guardian
- Final Recommendations for Accommodations & Support Resources Determined by Testing Psychologist, TAMU Disability Resources, and Assistant AD for Learning Services
 - o Disability Resources Accommodation Request Form

DIAGNOSIS PROCESS

The testing psychologist through the Texas A&M Athletics Counseling & Sport Psychology Team will provide final recommendations for accommodations, support and referral for potential medication therapy for any student-athlete that receives an ADHD diagnosis. A final testing report will be provided to the Sport Athletic Trainer for the student-athlete. This report will include full testing results and final diagnoses. Academic accommodations and support resources will be requested by Academic Services through the Texas A&M Office for Disability Resources. Potential diagnoses that would warrant referral for consultation on medication therapy would include:

Table 2. DSM-5 ADHD Diagnoses/Presentations

- 1. ADHD, Predominantly Hyperactive/Impulsive**
Presentation: Hyperactive/Impulsive criteria is met and the criteria for Inattention is not met.
- 2. ADHD, Predominantly Inattentive Presentation:**
Inattention criteria is met, but Hyperactivity/Impulsivity criteria is not met.
- 3. ADHD, Combined Presentation:** Criteria for both Inattention and Hyperactivity/Impulsivity are met.

STIMULANT MEDICATION TREATMENT PROCESS

Once a student-athlete has received a formal diagnosis and testing results have been shared with the Sport Athletic Trainer, the student-athlete will be referred for consultation on medication treatment for management of their ADHD symptoms. Student-athletes will be referred to a Texas A&M Primary Care Team Physician overseeing ADHD medication administration. The Team Physician will review testing results and discuss potential benefits and side effects of stimulant medications in the management of ADHD symptoms. Stimulant medications are the mainstay of pharmacologic treatment of ADHD but are banned substances by the NCAA. Commonly prescribed ADHD stimulant medications can be reviewed below:

Table 3. Common ADHD Stimulant Medications

Medication Name	Generic Name
Adderall	Amphetamine
Adderall XR	Amphetamine (extended release)
Concerta	Methylphenidate (long action)
Dexedrine	Dextroamphetamine
Focalin XR	Dexmethylphenidate (extended release)
Ritalin SR	Methylphenidate (extended release)
Vyvanse	Lisdexamfetamine Dimesylate

If a student-athletes wishes to pursue use of stimulant medication as part of treatment for their ADHD symptoms, Texas A&M will be required to maintain documentation on file that must include a written report of the evaluation conducted to support the ADHD diagnosis and medical treatment notes from the prescribing Team Physician. Medical appointments must occur every 3 months while a student-athlete is taking prescribed stimulant medication for ADHD symptoms and every time a student-athlete wishes to adjust their medication type/dosage.

In the event of a positive NCAA drug test, the prescribing Team Physician will need to complete the [NCAA Medical Exception ADHD Reporting Form](#) and submit it to the NCAA to allow for a medical exemption for the use of stimulant medication in the treatment of ADHD for the student-athlete.

All student-athletes being prescribed a stimulant medication for treatment of ADHD symptoms by a Texas A&M Team Physician will also be required to sign the *Informed Consent for Prescribed Medication* form indicating they will take medication only as prescribed and alert the treating Team Physician to any negative side effects. Also, the student-athlete will commit to not sharing their prescription medication with any other individuals or using their medication in combination with illicit substances. This *Consent for Prescribed Medication* form can be found in the forms section of this manual.

POST ELIGIBILITY MEDICAL CARE POLICY

Texas A&M Athletics must provide extended medical coverage for former student-athletes that directly relate to an athletically related injury incurred by the student-athlete through his or her participation in intercollegiate athletics at Texas A&M University. These medical services must be provided for a period of 2 years following the student-athlete's graduation or separation from the institution.

- All student-athletes are required to complete an exit medical questionnaire with a member of the Texas A&M Sports Medicine Staff within 30 days of their final competition or practice. If a medical or physical condition is listed on the questionnaire that may require future treatment, an exit physical with an approved Texas A&M Team Physician is required.
 - Failure to complete an exit physical or in the event the Student Athlete waives the completion of the medical questionnaire, results in forfeiture of eligibility for any medical liability and/or financial responsibility for any and all athletic related injuries or medical conditions.
 - The medical condition or injury for which the former Student Athlete is seeking treatment must be documented in the exit physical.
 - Any medical condition or injury not related to participation in athletics at Texas A&M that occurs after the Student Athlete's eligibility is complete, but prior to the exit physical will NOT be covered by Texas A&M Athletics.
 - Any medical condition or injury not related to participation in athletics at Texas A&M that occurs after the Student Athlete's eligibility is complete, but prior to their separation from the institution will not be covered by Texas A&M Athletics.
- If it is determined during the exit physical that an injury suffered during the student-athletes participation in intercollegiate athletics at Texas A&M requires further treatment, the treatment plan will be directed by the Director of Sports Medicine or an approved Texas A&M Team Physician designated by the Director of Sports Medicine.
 - Any medical care that is NOT directed by the Director of Sports Medicine or an approved Team Physician will NOT be covered.
 - Texas A&M Athletics will not be responsible for medical care for any non-athletic related injuries or illnesses (i.e. medications, contacts, dental work, etc.)
- Inquiries throughout the two-year period regarding continuing care of documented injuries suffered by the student-athlete through his or her participation in intercollegiate athletics at Texas A&M University should be directed to one of the following individuals:
 - The Staff Athletic Trainer for their respective sport in which they participated at Texas A&M
 - Director of Sports Medicine
- As with active student-athletes' athletically related injuries, a former student-athlete's insurance coverage will be primary and extended coverage provided by Texas A&M Athletics will be secondary. Texas A&M Athletics-provided coverage will pay eligible charges not covered by the former student-athlete's insurance coverage until the former student-athlete qualifies for coverage under the NCAA Catastrophic Injury Insurance Program.

- Inquiries must be made prior to seeking continuing care. After an inquiry is made, the Staff Athletic Trainer will contact the Director of Sports Medicine, who will direct the appropriate medical care of the former Student Athlete.
 - The former Student Athlete may be required to return to Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas for a formal medical evaluation by the Director of Sports Medicine or designated Texas A&M Team Physician to determine the appropriate course of treatment for the previously documented condition.
 - Any medical care that is NOT directed by the Director of Sports Medicine or an approved Team Physician will NOT be covered.
 - Second opinions and/or care that was not pre-authorized will not be covered or reimbursed.
- Texas A&M Athletics is not required to provide medical benefits should a student athlete transfer to another institution and begins practice, strength/conditioning activities or volunteer workouts.
- Execution of an employment contract with a professional sports organization, or participation in professional sporting events, releases Texas A&M Athletics from any benefits associated with this policy. Any deviation from this policy due to a professional league's pre-existing condition waiver process should only occur in consultation with and at the discretion of the Director of Sports Medicine.
- Any inquiries regarding this policy should be directed to the Director of Sports Medicine.

PREGNANCY POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

This policy is designed to protect the health, confidentiality, and scholarship status of student-athletes who become pregnant as well as to enable pregnant student-athletes to continue to participate in their sport to the fullest extent possible.

PURPOSE

To provide the Athletics Department Coaches and Staff with the appropriate guidelines to help ensure the medical well-being of pregnant or parenting student-athletes.

PROCEDURE

The Athletics Department at Texas A&M University is committed to the personal health and development of our student-athletes as well as the educational mission of Texas A&M University. The Athletics Department will strive to provide an environment that respects all pregnancy and parenting decisions and urges all participants to work cooperatively toward degree completion. The following procedural guidelines are established to assist the student-athlete, as well as the Athletics Department Coaches and Staff, in the event that pregnancy occurs.

- I. Student-athletes cannot be discriminated against because of their parental or marital status, pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom.
 - i. Upon learning of a student-athlete's pregnancy, it is recommended that Texas A&M staff refer the student-athlete to the Title IX office so that the student-athlete may be educated regarding their rights and on the resources and accommodations available to them.
 - ii. Email: TIX.Pregnancy@tamu.edu
 - iii. Call Title IX Office: 979-485-8407
2. The Texas A&M Athletics Department will allow a pregnant or parenting student-athlete to fully participate on the team, including all team-related activities, unless the student-athlete's physician, Texas A&M Athletics' Head Team Physician, or other medical caregiver certifies that participation is not medically safe. In the event of a disagreement, team medical personnel will defer to the student-athlete's physician or other maternal care provider. Texas A&M Athletics Department staff members will follow the recommendations made by the student-athlete's Physician.
3. Medically necessary absences from team activities due to pregnancy shall be considered excused absences.
4. No Athletics Department personnel shall suggest to any student-athlete that his or her continued participation on a team will be affected in any way by pregnancy, parental, or marital status.
5. The Texas A&M Athletics Department will not allow a hostile or intimidating environment on the basis of pregnancy or parental status.

6. The Texas A&M Athletics Department will not terminate or reduce a student-athlete's athletics aid because of the student-athlete's pregnancy, parental, or marital status during the term of the award.
7. Student-athletes may take a medical pregnancy leave, and at the end of that leave they will be reinstated to the same status they had before the medical pregnancy leave.
8. The Texas A&M Athletics Department will renew a pregnant, formerly pregnant, or parenting student-athlete's award so long as the student-athlete is in good standing academically, remains engaged with the Athletics Department, and meets NCAA eligibility standards. Returning student-athletes may be evaluated in the same manner as any other team member to determine their specific position on the team.
9. The Texas A&M Athletics Department will not permit the use of any written or verbal contract that requires a student-athlete to not get pregnant or become a parent as a condition of receiving an athletics award.
10. Any Athletic Department staff member who threatens to withhold or withholds athletics participation due to pregnancy or parenting status will be subject to disciplinary action.
11. Any Athletic Department staff member who harasses a student-athlete on the basis of pregnancy or parenting status, or by breaching medical confidentiality will be subject to disciplinary action.
12. Any Athletic Department staff member who becomes aware of conduct that violates this policy should report the conduct to the Athletics Director's office.

STUDENT-ATHLETES

1. Pregnancy testing is available through the University Health Services or any other medical provider.
2. Timely medical and obstetrical care is available through numerous private practitioners and organizations in the Bryan-College Station community who provide such care including the Brazos Valley Women's Center.
3. The Texas A&M Athletics Department will assist the pregnant or parenting student-athlete plan for his or her continued academic progress.
4. The Texas A&M Athletics Department will help the student-athlete return to sport after pregnancy and during parenting, if the student-athlete so desires.
5. The Texas A&M Athletics Department will assist the student-athlete to access the pregnancy and parenting support resources available to all Texas A&M students.
6. A pregnant student-athlete, or a male student-athlete whose partner becomes pregnant, may receive confidential counseling from his/her personal physician, the Texas A&M University Student Counseling Service (as permitted under established Student Counseling Services rules), and/or any of the organizations in the Bryan-College Station community who provide such services.
7. The Texas A&M Athletics Department will not require any student-athlete to reveal pregnancy or parenting status.
8. The Texas A&M Athletics Department encourages the student-athlete to voluntarily reveal her pregnancy and his or her parenting status to the Team Physician, Athletic Trainer, and Head Coach.
9. No Athletics Department personnel will publicly release personally identifiable health information about pregnancy without written consent from the student-athlete.

CONTINUED PARTICIPATION

1. A decision-support team can be assembled to assist a student-athlete that is pregnant and wishes to continue to participate in athletics. The decision-support team can also be assembled to assist the male student-athlete whose partner becomes pregnant. This team can include any of the following:
 - a. Student-Athlete's Medical Provider
 - b. Team Physician
 - c. Athletic Trainer
 - d. Sports Dietitian
 - e. Team Coach
 - f. Academic Counselor/Scholastic Supervisor
 - g. Mental Health Counselor
 - h. Others as needed
2. The decision-support team will monitor the student-athlete's health and academic progress and will assist the student-athlete's rehabilitation and return to competition if so desired.

3. If a student-athlete chooses to compete while pregnant, she will:
 - a. Be made aware of the potential risks of her particular sport and exercise in general while pregnant.
 - b. Be encouraged to discontinue exercise when feeling overexerted or when any of the following warning signs are present:
 - Vaginal bleeding
 - Shortness of breath before exercise
 - Dizziness
 - Headache
 - Chest Pain
 - Calf pain or swelling
 - Preterm labor
 - Decreased fetal movement
 - Amniotic fluid leakage
 - Muscle weakness
 - c. Follow the recommendations of her medical provider in coordination with the Head Team Physician.
 - d. Remain well-hydrated, well-nourished, and avoid overheating.
4. After delivery or pregnancy termination, the student-athlete should provide written medical clearance from their medical provider.
5. The student-athlete will be reinstated to the team in the same status they had prior to the medical pregnancy leave.
6. An individual training plan will be developed for the student-athlete in order to acclimatize the return to practice and/or competition.
7. If the student-athlete chooses not to participate and to forego her remaining years of eligibility, her scholarship will not be renewed following the existing award period.

MEDICAL EXPENSE INFORMATION

1. Pregnancy expenses are considered a non-athletic medical expense and will be the financial responsibility of the student-athlete, and/or her family.
2. If the health and well-being of the pregnant student-athlete is in question, or in the case a medical emergency, The Texas A&M University Athletics Department may assist with the payment of a medical evaluation.
3. The Texas A&M University Athletics Department's Practice Play Policy for student-athletes does not cover pregnancy-related care and treatment. However, in the event that an injury arises during the course of a pregnant student-athlete's approved participation in athletics, medical insurance coverage may exist.
4. The Texas A&M Athletics Department may assist with the payment of psychological counseling services for the pregnant student-athlete.
5. The Texas A&M Athletics Department may assist with the payment of psychological counseling services for a male student-athlete whose partner becomes pregnant.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND EDUCATION POLICY

Note: In September of 2023, the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (CSMAS) provided the recommendation that each of the association's three divisional governance bodies introduce and adopt legislation that would remove cannabinoids— the chemical substance derived from the cannabis plant (THC/Marijuana) — from the NCAA's list of banned drug classes. Consequently, per the NCAA recommendations voted upon and approved in June 2024, the current substance abuse and education policy for the Texas A&M University Athletics Department was updated in order to be congruent with current standards and overall best practices. Each specific sport/head coach may have additional policies related to substance use/positive drug tests that may differ from the Texas A&M University Athletics Department Policy.

I. PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

Through the administration of a Substance Abuse and Educational Policy for student-athletes, the Texas A&M University (TAMU) Athletics Department strives to protect the health and welfare of its student-athletes. Therefore, the TAMU Athletics Department does not approve of, excuse, or condone the use, misuse and/or abuse by its student-athletes of:

- Illegal drugs
- Substances found in the NCAA's list of banned classes of drugs.
- Prescription drugs when their use is not medically indicated.
- Alcohol when used by minors or abused by any student-athlete.

The objectives of the Athletics Department Substance Abuse and Drug Education Policy are as follows:

- A. To educate student-athletes on the physical, psychological, social, ethical, NCAA-related, and legal consequences of banned drugs and abuse of alcohol.
- B. To implement a drug-screening program, coupled with education, treatment, & sanctions for student-athletes who screen positive for banned substances.
- C. To identify and deter student-athletes from using substances banned by the NCAA and the Athletics Department.
- D. To provide sanctions that discourage any student-athlete from the use, abuse or misuse of substances referenced in this policy or attempting to compromise the integrity of the testing program.
- E. To offer rehabilitation and counseling services for any student-athlete who may have a drug or alcohol problem.
- F. To abide by all University, Conference and NCAA policies and procedures, including the NCAA's requirement that any athletics department staff member or employee who has knowledge of a student-athlete's use of a substance on the NCAA's list of banned drugs at any time shall follow Texas A&M procedures dealing with drug abuse or shall be subject to disciplinary action.

The Drug and Alcohol Review Committee referred to in this policy will include (but is not limited to) the following:

- Director of Sports Medicine or their designee
- Head Team Physician
- Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training
- Athletics Department Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology (PhD)
- Athletic Department Compliance Member

2. DRUG EDUCATION

The Texas A&M Athletics Department will:

- A. Educate student-athletes about the problems associated with drug use and abuse and how drug use may affect the athlete and his/her teammates' health and safety.
- B. Provide a fair and drug-free forum for athletic participation.

- C. Discourage substance abuse and assist the student-athlete in adhering to NCAA restrictions regarding banned substances.
- D. Identify any student-athlete who may be using prohibited substances and to identify the substance(s).
- E. Encourage the rehabilitation of any student-athlete identified using prohibited substances and to assist the student-athlete in exploring rehabilitation so that drug dependency may be addressed and treated.
- F. Provide education regarding the substance abuse policy and expectations to all student-athletes. Annual written consent will be obtained and is a requirement for athletics participation at Texas A&M University.
- G. Provide educational information regarding substance abuse to student-athletes in appropriate forums.

3. **SUBSTANCES SUBJECTED TO TESTING**

A. The Texas A&M Substance Abuse Program tests for substances identified by the Athletics Department that are purported to be performance enhancing and/or potentially harmful to the health, safety or well-being of student-athletes, substances banned by the NCAA, and/or that are illegal under applicable federal or state law. Drug testing is performed by AEGIS Sciences Laboratories, Inc., Nashville, TN using a profiling system. Any, all, or a combination of these profiles may be administered on a single urine specimen. Each profile provides for detection of masking agents as well as the drugs listed below:

I. The Recreational Drugs profile detects the following drugs:

- 1. Amphetamine/Methamphetamine: Adderall, Ecstasy, and similar substances.
- 2. Barbiturates and similar substances.
- 3. Benzodiazepines: Valium, Xanax, and similar substances.
- 4. Cannabinoids: Marijuana, THC, and similar substances.
(1) Note: The testing panel completed by AEGIS Sciences Laboratories, Inc. will continue to include Cannabinoid results but in remaining congruent with NCAA procedures, any positive Cannabinoid test result indicated will not be deemed as "positive" for any disciplinary/sanction purposes specific to this policy. Rather, any positive result for a Cannabinoid will be noted for notification/education/treatment purposes only.
- 5. Cocaine/Crack and similar substances.
- 6. Opiates: Hydrocodone, Oxycodone, Codeine, Heroin, and similar substances.
- 7. Phencyclidine (PCP).

2. The Anabolic Steroid profile tests for banned performance enhancing compounds (anabolic-androgenic steroids and related substances) in a manner consistent with the requirements of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

3. Specific Compounds may be isolated and tested:

- 1. Synthetics: K2, Spice, etc.
- 2. Ephedra/Ephedrine.
- 3. Alcohol.
- 4. Any single NCAA banned substance.

4. Alcohol

Alcohol is a part of our culture and is present at many social functions throughout society; however, it is a mood-altering substance and constitutes the greatest drug problem in society and among college students. Therefore:

- 1. Alcohol consumption is illegal and unacceptable for student-athletes under the age of twenty-one.
- 2. High-risk alcohol consumption is not recommended for any student-athlete regardless of age. High-risk alcohol use is defined as four or more drinks in one sitting for women and five or more drinks in one sitting for men.

5. Cannabinoids (Marijuana/THC)
Products containing cannabinoids/THC are often present at many social functions throughout society; however, it is a mood-altering substance and may constitute a significant drug problem in society and among college students. It is also currently an illegal substance in the state of Texas. Therefore, it is unacceptable for any student-athletes to consume products containing cannabinoids/THC.
6. Prescription Medications
 - A. Student-athletes who are taking drugs pursuant to a prescription are required to notify their Athletic Trainer. The Athletic Trainer will consult with a Team Physician to determine whether the student-athlete may safely practice or compete while using this drug.
 - B. If the prescription medication is listed on the NCAA's Banned Substance list, an alternative medication should be considered.
 - C. Student-athletes must provide this information at the beginning of each school year and update the information as new prescriptions are received.
 - D. It is possible to test positive for banned substances that have been prescribed for medical conditions. Testing positive without a current and valid prescription and documentation of the prescription on file with Sports Medicine Staff will be considered a violation of this policy and the student-athlete will be subject to the appropriate corrective measures.
 - E. Testing positive for a prescription medication that is not prescribed to the student-athlete will be considered a violation of this policy and the student-athlete will be subject to the appropriate corrective measures.
 - F. The Texas A&M Athletics Department reserves the right to impose disciplinary action if it is determined that a student-athlete provided his/her prescription to another student-athlete.
7. Over-the-Counter-Medications
 - A. Student-athletes should be aware that it is possible to test positive for banned substances contained in many over-the-counter medications.
 - B. The use of these medications by the student-athlete may result in a positive drug test. Testing positive will be considered a violation of this policy and the student-athlete will be subject to the appropriate corrective measures.
 - C. Student-athletes should consult with their Athletic Trainer and/or Team Physician if they have specific questions related to over-the-counter medications.
8. Nutritional Supplements
 - A. Student-athletes should be aware that nutritional supplements (including but not limited to vitamins, amino acids, weight gain/loss products) may contain substances banned by the NCAA and the Athletics Department.
 - B. Nutritional supplements are not regulated by the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and are highly subject to cross-contamination during production.
 - C. Nutritional supplements may not be pure, or they may contain substances not identified on the label.
 - D. Student-athletes are discouraged from taking any supplement unless it is provided by the Athletics Department or approved by the Assistant Athletics Director of Performance Nutrition.
 - E. Student-athletes are encouraged to contact their Athletics Trainer and/or Sports Dietitian prior to taking any supplements.
 - F. Ultimately, the student-athlete will be held accountable for any banned substance and/or metabolite identified during testing. The use of supplements is at the student-athlete's own risk.
9. Drug Testing Protocol
 - A. **Test Participant Selection** – All student-athletes who have NCAA eligibility remaining or who receive athletics financial aid may be subject to testing.
 - B. **Confidentiality** – The collection and coding of specimens is executed in a manner to ensure total confidentiality and proper identification.

1. All Positive analysis results that result in a violation of the substance use policy are returned to the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training, Athletics Director and/or designee, the student-athlete's head coach and designee, health care providers involved in the assessment, counseling and treatment providers to which the student-athlete may be referred, and the student-athlete's parents (if the student-athlete is under the age of twenty-one years of age). **Positive analysis results include no-contacts, no-shows for drug tests, and refusals to participate in drug tests.**
 2. **Note: A positive test result for cannabinoids (THC) will not result in a notification to the individuals indicated above. However, student-athletes will be notified of the test result and followed up with by Counseling & Sport Psychology staff to provide education and treatment services as applicable/warranted.**
 3. All testing results are returned to the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training for filing in the student-athlete's confidential drug testing file.
- C. **Selection Process for Testing** – Drug testing will be conducted throughout the calendar year. Testing takes a variety of forms:
1. **First-year student-athletes** – All freshmen and transfer student-athletes will be drug tested for medical evaluation purposes during their first enrolled semester (Initial Assessment Test). Initial Assessment Test results indicating the presence of a prohibited substance, including alcohol, **shall not** be considered a positive test result for purposes of this policy; however, upon receipt of the positive drug test result, student-athletes will be:
 - a. Referred to the Athletics Department's Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff for an evaluation.
 - b. The student-athlete may be required to participate in counseling and/or substance abuse education programming as directed by the Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff.
 - c. The student athlete will be subjected to follow-up testing and given a maximum of 90 days after the positive test to allow for return to a negative test level of the substance(s) in the sample which caused the positive test.
 - d. Once the 90-day period ends (or the student-athlete obtains a negative test level of the substance(s) in the sample which caused the positive test, if sooner), the student-athlete will be returned to the random selection pool and subject to random testing for future tests.
 2. **Random Testing** – Random testing will take place during the calendar year for all student-athletes enrolled at TAMU. A random list of student-athletes' names will be computer generated for the sports selected to be included in the testing process. The procedure will be conducted as listed below in *Collection Procedure*.
 3. **Team Testing** – Each team may be subject to testing of all of its student-athletes, as a team, at any time. Coaches and/or designee need to communicate with their Sport Administrator prior to scheduling/conducting a team test. If team testing occurs, all members of the team must be present at the time of testing. If a student-athlete fails to appear for drug testing without good cause shown, or refuses to give a specimen/sample, this will be considered positive for a banned substance and will be subject to the procedures and sanctions set forth in Section II. A student-athlete who fails to appear for testing, but provides good cause as determined by the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training, may be required to submit to a drug test at a time and place designated by the Athletics Department.
 4. **Reasonable Suspicion** – Student-athletes may be selected for testing for reasonable suspicion at any time. Such causes for reasonable suspicion include, but are not limited to, reports of use of substances banned by this policy by a student-athlete, unusual behavior or academic performance, noticeable change of physical appearance (abnormal weight changes, strength gains, etc.) and previous positive drug testing. Circumstances which may constitute reasonable suspicion include, but are not limited to, the following: current or past involvement

with the criminal justice system for drug and/or alcohol related activities; prior treatment for drug and/or alcohol use or abuse; prior positive test for any prohibited substance(s); physiological signs or other reasonable indications of possible use of or impairment from drugs or alcohol; or a pattern of aberrant behavior. The Head Coach and/or designee will be notified of a student-athlete's selection for reasonable suspicion testing prior to the test being conducted. Should a coach and/or designee request a test for reasonable suspicion, they need to communicate with their Sport Administrator prior to scheduling/conducting a test for reasonable suspicion.

5. **Follow up testing** – Student-athletes who test positive on any drug test administered by the TAMU Athletics Department, the NCAA, the Southeastern Conference (SEC), or any Anti-Doping Agency, may be subject to follow-up testing, at any time, to determine compliance with policy offense sanctions is being maintained.
 6. **NCAA Testing** – All student-athletes are subject to testing by the NCAA under the policies and procedures of that organization. See www.NCAA.org/drugtesting. Student-athletes may be tested while participating in a championship event, a post-season football game, or during a regularly scheduled on-site NCAA test. If a student-athlete tests positive on a NCAA drug test, it may also constitute a positive test under the Athletics Department Substance Abuse and Education Policy. Sanctions from the NCAA may be applied in addition to any sanctions imposed by the Athletics Department.
- D. **Collection Procedure** – The collection of urine samples from student-athletes shall be taken under the supervision of an independent member of the AEGIS Drug Collection Team (collector). The collection team will be trained in the appropriate collection procedures by and for AEGIS Sciences Laboratories. The collection team will inspect and confirm the testing site is safe and free of contaminants. Steps will be taken to ensure the integrity of the sample and appropriate chain of custody. The general procedure utilized in the collection process for random testing will be as follows:
1. Student-athletes will be selected in accordance with Section C - Selection Process, of the TAMU Athletics Department Substance Abuse Policy.
 2. The Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training and/or designee will coordinate the date, site, and time of the collection process.
 3. A list of student-athletes to be tested will be generated through AEGIS Sciences Laboratories SAMS drug testing database with random selection occurring by computer generation of identification numbers. This list may include 5th year student-athletes with no remaining eligibility who receive athletics financial aid and medical non-counters that receive athletics financial aid.
 4. The selected student-athletes will be notified directly by text message and email two hours prior to the test. The Head Coach and/or designee will be notified by the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training of those student-athletes on their team selected for testing.
 5. Selected student-athletes must report to the designated testing site within the time frame of the test. Failing to report to the designated testing site within the time frame of the test will be marked as a "No-Show" and will constitute a positive test result per the policy.
 6. A photo ID may be required for proper identification at the testing site.
 7. The student-athlete will receive a chain of custody form with his/her assigned donor ID number included.
 8. The student-athlete will select a sealed specimen container.
 9. The student-athlete will have to remain in visual contact with the collector and/or athletics department designee once he/she has checked in. The student-athlete may not leave the testing area until a specimen is produced.
 10. The student-athlete will proceed with the collector to submit a witnessed sample. A witnessed sample is one in which the collector observes the student-athlete produce their sample. A witnessed sample for male student-athletes requires their shirt to be pulled up to their armpits

with their pants/shorts to the knees while producing a specimen. Female student-athletes will be asked to have jog bra and pants/shorts with pants/shorts to their knees while producing a sample.

11. Pre-determined volumes and temperature guidelines for sample acceptance will be followed.
 12. The sample will then be sealed and packaged. The chain of custody paperwork will be completed by the collector in clear view of the student-athlete. Samples are numbered, and no names are placed on the specimen to ensure confidentiality.
 13. Sealed samples will be packaged, scheduled for shipping with the designated overnight carrier for pickup and delivery to AEGIS Sciences Laboratories for screening and confirmation.
 14. A urine sample is the matrix of choice for the Texas A&M Athletics Department Substance Abuse Policy. However, a volume level less than 30mL may result in an insufficient volume for collection/screening. If additional volume cannot be collected on the date and time of the test, the University reserves the right to use an alternative collection method to obtain a specimen/sample for testing (e.g. hair or saliva) on the date and time of the test. The student-athlete may also be required to submit a urine sample within a 24-hour period. Results will be returned to the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training.
 15. Testing consideration – Failure to provide a urine sample at drug test (No Void). Student-athletes who fail or are unable to provide a urine specimen during a drug test (No Void) may be prohibited from working out, practicing, or participating in competition until a valid specimen is provided.
 16. A student-athlete who fails to appear for drug testing without good cause shown or refuses to give a specimen/sample will be considered positive for a banned substance and will be subject to the procedures and sanctions set forth in Section 11. A student-athlete who fails to appear for testing, but provides good cause as determined by the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training, may be required to submit to a drug test at a time and place designated by the Athletics Department.
 17. Any attempt to substitute, manipulate, adulterate, or intentionally dilute a urine specimen will be treated as a positive drug test. Manipulation refers to the use of any product, including excessive water consumption, used for the purpose of providing a dilute urine sample or substitution of a urine sample. Adulteration refers to the use or attempted use of any chemical or product (including water) added directly to the urine sample for the purpose of interfering with the testing procedures used to identify the presence of drugs. A dilute urine specimen will be quantified as having a specific gravity of 1.005 or lower based on the normal standard specific gravity of 1.020. Texas A&M reserves the right to include the collection of additional matrixes including but not limited to oral fluid (saliva) when there is a reasonable suspicion of manipulation or adulteration. If a dilute sample test result is produced, the student-athlete may be subjected to a follow-up test during the next regularly scheduled test.
10. **Safe Harbor Program** (allows for self-referral of substance use without penalty)
- A. **General** – Consistent with the educational and treatment-focused mission of the Substance Abuse Policy, the Athletics Department has adopted a Safe Harbor Program to encourage student-athletes to voluntarily seek assistance for drug or alcohol use or abuse. The Safe Harbor Program is designed to allow student-athletes, without fear of disciplinary action, to initiate the process by which drug or alcohol use or abuse issues are identified, confronted, and addressed through voluntary participation in assessment, medical evaluation, counseling, and education.
 - B. **Procedure** – The Safe Harbor Program shall be conducted as follows:
 1. The student-athlete shall advise the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training, a staff member from Counseling & Sport Psychology Services, and/or authorized physician of his/her desire to self-refer for assistance with drug or alcohol use or abuse. **Such notification must be made before the student-athlete is notified he/she has been selected for a drug test pursuant to the Substance Abuse Policy.**

2. The student-athlete shall identify the substance(s) prohibited by this policy for which assistance is requested.
3. The student-athlete shall submit to a drug test to determine the presence and concentration of drugs or alcohol in the student-athlete's system at the time of self-referral. If the drug test reveals the presence of a prohibited substance not disclosed by the student-athlete at the time of self-referral, the student-athlete shall be automatically removed from the Safe Harbor Program and subject to disciplinary action as set forth in the Substance Abuse Policy.
4. The student-athlete will be referred to the Athletics Department's Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff member for an evaluation.
5. The student-athlete may be required to participate in counseling and/or substance abuse education programming as directed by the Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff member.
6. The student-athlete is required to abide by all recommendations in order to remain in the Safe Harbor Program.
7. The student-athlete may be subject to follow-up testing in order to monitor the level of prohibited substances in the student-athlete's system. If any subsequent drug test reveals the presence of a prohibited substance not disclosed by the student-athlete at the time of self-referral, the student-athlete shall then be automatically removed from the Safe Harbor Program and subject to disciplinary action as set forth in the Substance Abuse Policy.
8. The Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training may release a student-athlete from the Safe Harbor Program at any time after the student-athlete has completed all required education and prohibited substances are no longer present in the student-athlete's system.
9. The maximum period of time a student-athlete may remain in the Safe Harbor Program is 90 days.
10. A student-athlete may request Safe Harbor twice during their enrollment at Texas A&M University. However, the Safe Harbor Program may only be used once during a 12-month period.
11. A student-athlete may be removed from the Safe Harbor Program at any time if it is determined that the student-athlete is not fulfilling his/her obligations under the Safe Harbor Program.
12. While participating in the Safe Harbor Program, a student-athlete shall not be subject to penalties as otherwise required by the Substance Abuse Policy unless there is reasonable cause to believe the student-athlete may be using a prohibited substance not disclosed by the student-athlete at the time of self-referral, and shall not be subject to disciplinary action for positive test results for drugs or alcohol for which the student-athlete self-referred.
13. A student-athlete's participation in the Safe Harbor Program shall be confidential. However, a student-athlete is encouraged to advise his or her head coach and parents or legal guardian of his or her decision to participate in the Safe Harbor Program.

II. Procedures for a Positive Test Result for a Recreational Drug of Abuse

- A. The Texas A&M Athletics Department recognizes that student-athletes who have addiction problems may need treatment and education in order to overcome their addiction. Therefore, there will be a 90-day period after each positive test that resulted in a violation of the policy to allow for a return to a negative test level of the substance in the student-athlete's sample which resulted in the positive test. During this time, the student-athlete will receive the proper treatment and education that they need according to their assessment. The 90-day period begins the day the student-athlete is informed of the positive drug test. Once the 90-day period ends, the student-athlete will be returned to the random selection pool and will be subject to random testing.
 1. **Note: A positive test result for cannabinoids (THC) will not result in a violation of the policy. However, student-athletes will be notified of the test result and followed up with by Counseling & Sport Psychology staff to provide education and treatment services as applicable/warranted.**

- B. The Texas A&M Athletics Department reserves the right to add to any practice and/or competition suspensions if it is medically determined by the Medical Director that a student-athlete poses a serious health risk to themselves or others by continuing to participate in athletics.
- C. Drug Testing Thresholds can be found in Appendix A.
- D. Positive Test Education, Treatment and Assessment Period: A student-athlete who tests positive for a banned substance will be given a maximum of 90 days (90-day period) after the positive test to allow for return to a negative test level of the substance(s) in the sample which caused the positive test.
 - I. **Conclusion of 90-day period:**
 - 1. Except as noted below, the 90-day period will end 90 days following the testing date or upon a negative test result (whichever is earlier).
 - 2. If the student-athlete tests positive a second time, at a higher level, on a follow-up test for the substance that caused the violation, the 90-day period will end immediately, and the student-athlete will return to the regular selection process of this policy. The student-athlete will not be eligible for a reprieve of the initial offense.
 - 2. Follow-up testing may be conducted during the 90-day period in conjunction with the student-athlete's treatment and education plan. Follow-up testing may continue after the conclusion of the 90-day period when the student-athlete is attending educational sessions, educational programs, and/or rehabilitation activities as specified by the Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services. Follow-up test results will be used to determine the level of substance(s) in a student-athlete's system. An increase in the level of substance(s) in a student-athlete's system during this time will be reviewed by the Medical Director, the Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services, and/or the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training in order to determine if additional sanctions and/or educational activities are warranted. However, the detection of a new substance listed in Section 3 (with the exception of Cannabinoids/THC/Marijuana) at any time during or after the conclusion of the 90-day period will constitute a new violation of the policy at the next sanctioning level.
 - 3. Increase of Substance Levels:
 - 1. During 90-day period: If the student-athlete tests positive on a follow-up test for the substance that caused the violation, at a higher level, the student-athlete will be notified, and a counseling assessment will be mandatory. The initial follow-up test result during this period will not count as an additional offense.
 - 2. If the student-athlete tests positive a second time on a follow-up test for the substance(s) that caused the violation, at a higher level, the 90-day period will end immediately, and the student-athlete will return to the regular selection process of this policy. The test result will not result in an additional offense; however, the student-athlete will not be eligible for a reprieve of the initial offense.
 - 3. After the conclusion of the 90-day period, an increase in the level of substance(s) during this time will make the student-athlete ineligible for a reprieve of the initial offense. However, if the student-athlete is participating in a prescribed educational or rehabilitation program, the test result will not be considered an additional offense, but the student-athlete will be returned to the regular selection process of this policy for future testing. If the student-athlete is not actively engaged in educational sessions, educational programs, and/or rehabilitation activities as specified by the Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services, he/she will be assessed a violation at the next sanctioning level and will not be eligible for a reprieve of the initial offense.
- E. Listed below are the procedures that will be followed for each respective violation of the policy.
 - I. **First Offense** – Student-athletes who violate this policy due to a positive test result at this level will be subject to the following:
 - 1. The Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training will notify the student-athlete, the Sport Administrator, and the student-athlete's Head Coach or designee.

2. The student-athlete will be required to meet with the Sport Administrator unless there are extenuating circumstances as determined by the Sport Administrator. In the event the student-athlete fails to meet with the Sport Administrator in the manner required, he/she will be prohibited from working-out, practicing, or participating in competition until a meeting is held.
 3. The student-athlete will be evaluated by the Athletics Department's Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff member.
 4. The student-athlete will be required to participate in counseling and/or substance abuse education programming as outlined in Appendix B by the Athletics Department's Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff member.
 5. The student athlete will be given a maximum of 90 days after the positive test to allow for return to a negative test level of the substance(s) in the sample which caused the positive test.
 6. The student-athlete will be subject to the positive test education, treatment, and assessment period.
 7. The student-athlete, if under 21 years of age, in conjunction with the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training, and the head coach (or designee), will notify his/her parents or legal guardians of the incident by written correspondence, telephone or in person. The parents or legal guardians will also be informed of the corrective actions being taken. Student-athletes 21 years of age or older are strongly encouraged to notify their parents.
 8. **Note: A positive test result for cannabinoids (THC) will not result in a violation of the policy nor will it result in the individuals listed above being contacted. However, student-athletes will be notified of the test result and followed up with by Counseling & Sport Psychology staff to provide education and treatment services as applicable/warranted.**
2. **Second Offense** – Student-athletes who violate this policy due to a positive test result at this level will be subject to the following:
1. The Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training will notify the student-athlete, the Sport Administrator, and the student-athlete's Head Coach or designee.
 2. The student-athlete will be required to meet with the Sport Administrator unless there are extenuating circumstances as determined by the Sport Administrator. In the event the student-athlete fails to meet with the Sport Administrator in the manner required, he/she will be prohibited from working-out, practicing or participating in competition until a meeting is held.
 3. The student-athlete will be withheld from ten (10) percent of the team's season competition schedule, including post-season events (e.g. Conference Championships, NCAA Championships, and bowl games), beginning with the next consecutive event on the schedule. When calculating the withholding from competition, fractional numbers are always rounded up to the next whole number. The student-athlete may practice but will be prohibited from dressing in uniform for a competition, traveling with the team, or being present in the team area on the day of competition.
 4. The student-athlete will be evaluated by the Athletics Department's Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff member.
 5. The student-athlete will be required to participate in counseling and/or substance abuse education programming as outlined in Appendix B by the Athletics Department's Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff member.
 6. The student-athlete will be given a maximum of 90 days after the positive test to allow for return to a negative test level of the substance(s) in the sample which caused the positive test

7. Student-athlete will be subject to the positive test education, treatment and assessment period.
 8. The student-athlete, if under 21 years of age, in conjunction with the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training, and the head coach (or designee), will notify his/her parents or legal guardians of the incident by written correspondence, telephone or in person. The parents or legal guardians will also be informed of the corrective actions being taken. Student-athletes 21 years of age or older are strongly encouraged to notify their parents.
 9. **Note: A positive test result for cannabinoids (THC) will not result in a violation of the policy nor will it result in the individuals listed above being contacted. However, student-athletes will be notified of the test result and followed up with by Counseling & Sport Psychology staff to provide education and treatment services as applicable/warranted.**
3. **Third Offense** – Student-athletes who violate this policy due to a positive test result at this level will be subject to the following:
1. The Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training will notify the student-athlete, the Sport Administrator, and the student-athlete's Head Coach or designee.
 2. The student-athlete will be required to meet with the Sport Administrator unless there are extenuating circumstances as determined by Sport Administrator. In the event the student-athlete fails to meet with the Sport Administrator in the manner required, he/she will be prohibited from working-out, practicing or participating in competition until a meeting is held.
 3. The student-athlete will be withheld from twenty (20) percent of the team's season competition schedule, including post-season events (e.g. Conference Championships, NCAA Championships, and bowl games), beginning with the next consecutive event on the schedule. When calculating the withholding from competition, fractional numbers are always rounded up to the next whole number. The student-athlete may practice but will be prohibited from dressing in uniform for a competition, traveling with the team, or being present in the team area on the day of competition.
 4. The student-athlete will be evaluated by the Athletics Department's Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff member.
 5. The student-athlete will be required to participate in counseling and/or substance abuse education programming as outlined in Appendix B by the Athletics Department's Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff member.
 6. The student athlete will be given a maximum of 90 days after the positive test to allow for return to a negative test level of the substance(s) in the sample which caused the positive test.
 7. Student-athlete will be subject to the positive test education, treatment and assessment period.
 8. The student-athlete, if under 21 years of age, in conjunction with the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training, and the head coach (or designee), will notify his/her parents or legal guardians of the incident by written correspondence, telephone or in person. The parents or legal guardians will also be informed of the corrective actions being taken. Student-athletes 21 years of age or older are strongly encouraged to notify their parents.
 9. The student-athlete's continued receipt of an athletics grant-in-aid during this period will be at the discretion of the Athletics Director and/or designee, and dependent upon compliance with recommended education and treatment.
 10. **Note: A positive test result for cannabinoids (THC) will not result in a violation of the policy nor will it result in the individuals listed above being contacted. However, student-athletes will be notified of the test result and followed up with**

by Counseling & Sport Psychology staff to provide education and treatment services as applicable/warranted.

4. **Fourth Offense** – Student-athletes testing positive for a drug of abuse for a fourth time will be subject to the following:
 1. The student-athlete will be dismissed from intercollegiate athletics participation at Texas A&M University for at least one calendar year.
 2. The student-athlete will forfeit further athletically-related financial aid from the Texas A&M Athletics Department for at least one calendar year.
 3. A student-athlete that has been dismissed from intercollegiate athletics participation at Texas A&M University due to a fourth offense, may reapply for participation. In order to reapply, the student-athlete will need to do the following:
 - a. Gain the support of the Head Coach of the sport.
 - b. Meet with the Drug and Alcohol Review Committee in order for an educational plan to be developed for the student-athlete.
 - c. Submit to and pass a follow-up drug test.
4. **Note: A positive test result for cannabinoids (THC) will not result in a violation of the policy nor will it result in the individuals listed above being contacted. However, student-athletes will be notified of the test result and followed up with by Counseling & Sport Psychology staff to provide education and treatment services as applicable/warranted.**

12. PROCEDURES FOR A POSITIVE TEST RESULT FOR AN ANABOLIC AGENT OR PERFORMANCE ENHANCER

- A. **First Offense:** Student-athletes testing positive for a substance that is an Anabolic Agent or Performance Enhancer for the first time will be subject to the following:
 1. Follow procedures for first offense for a recreational drug of abuse.
 2. Student-athletes testing positive for an Anabolic Agent or Performance Enhancer will be suspended immediately.
 3. The student-athlete will be suspended for a minimum of fifty (50) percent of the NCAA. Championship season for the sport, including post-season events (e.g., Conference Championships, NCAA Championships, and bowl games), beginning with the next consecutive event on the schedule.
 4. The student-athlete may practice but will be prohibited from dressing in uniform for competition, traveling with the team, or being present in the team area during competition.
 5. Consideration for reinstatement for the student-athlete will be given after a student-athlete has completed the suspension and has tested negative for the Anabolic Agent or Performance Enhancer. The Drug and Alcohol Review Committee will review the case and make a recommendation to the Athletics Director and/or designee who will determine the status of reinstatement.
 6. The student-athlete's continued receipt of an athletics grant-in-aid during this period will be at the discretion of the Athletics Director and/or designee and dependent upon compliance with recommended education and treatment.
- B. **Second Offense:** Student-athletes testing positive for a substance that is an Anabolic Agent or Performance Enhancer for the second time will be subject to the following:
 1. The student-athlete will be dismissed from intercollegiate athletics at Texas A&M University.
 2. The student-athlete will forfeit further athletically-related financial aid from the Texas A&M Athletics Department.

13. **PROCEDURES AND SANCTIONS FOR POSITIVE TESTING FOR CONTINUED AID STUDENT-ATHLETES**

Student-athletes who have completed their athletic eligibility, or have received a medical exemption from participation, but remain on athletic grant-in-aid, are subject to drug test selection. Violations against the Substance Abuse and Education Policy are cumulative from the student-athlete's enrollment at Texas A&M University and subsequent violations will be added to the student-athlete's total. A violation of this policy by a continued aid student-athlete may result in the reduction and/or cancellation of future grant-in-aid for the continued aid student-athlete.

Note: A positive test result for cannabinoids (THC) will not result in a violation of the policy. However, continued aid student-athletes will be notified of the test result and followed up with by Counseling & Sport Psychology staff to provide education and treatment services as applicable/warranted.

14. **REPRIEVE PROVISION**

- A. **Cumulative Consequences** – All offenses are cumulative for the duration of the student-athlete's enrollment and eligibility at Texas A&M University.
- B. **Reprive Provision** – Student-athletes who have tested positive but successfully complete their educational program, as well as the penalty associated with the positive result, may be granted a reprieve of an offense of the Substance Abuse Policy. The reprieve provision will retract a positive test from the student-athlete's record.
- C. The reprieve will be granted to a student-athlete when the following criteria is met:
 - 1. Maintain negative drug test results for a period of 6 months after a positive test.
 - a. The 6-month period will begin when a follow-up test demonstrates a negative result or:
 - b. When the 90-day period after a positive test result expires.
 - 2. Successful completion of an individualized program as determined by the Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff member.
 - 3. Incur no more than 1 unexcused absence from any assigned requirements, and
 - 4. Participate in follow-up and/or random drug testing as prescribed by the Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff member.
- D. If the student-athlete does not successfully meet the criteria in sections 11.4.C.1, or 11.4.C.2, he or she may opt-in to the reprieve provision at a later date. The student-athlete will need to make a written request with the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training in order to pursue the reprieve provision. The reprieve request will not be considered during the six-month period that immediately follows a student-athlete's failed attempt at the initial reprieve. The student-athlete will be subject to the following:
 - 1. The reprieve will be granted to a student-athlete should he or she maintain negative drug tests for a period of 6 months.
 - 2. A positive drug test during this period will result in a policy violation at the student-athlete's next sanctioning level.
 - 3. Meeting with the Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology Services or Counseling and Sport Psychology Services staff member will be available to the student-athlete on a voluntary basis.

15. **APPEAL PROCESS**

Any student-athlete who violates the Substance Abuse Policy has the right to an appeal hearing.

- 1. A student athlete who tests positive for a substance that results in a violation of the policy may, within seventy-two (72) hours following receipt of notice of the positive test, contest the finding. Upon the student-athlete's request for additional testing of the sample, at the student-athlete's own expense. The Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training will formally request AEGIS Sciences Laboratories to re-analyze the A bottle and to confirm the original positive finding by analyzing the B bottle per AEGIS Sciences Laboratories standard for a positive drug test result. The student-athlete may choose to be present (traveling at the student-athlete's own expense) for the re-analysis at the laboratory. If the student-athlete does not wish to be present but desires to

be represented, arrangements will be made for a surrogate to attend. The student-athlete or surrogate will attest to the sample number prior to the laboratory conducting the re-analysis. The student-athlete or surrogate will not be involved with any other aspect of the analysis of the specimen. Re-analysis findings by AEGIS Sciences Laboratories per their standard for a positive drug test result will be final. If the re-analysis test is negative, the first drug test will be considered negative.

2. The Athletics Director and/or designee will review the information and determine if an appeal hearing by a Review Panel should be convened. The Athletics Director will notify the student-athlete within 5 University business days if an appeal hearing is warranted. By requesting an appeal hearing, the student-athlete agrees to forgo the confidentiality of the test results.
3. The Drug and Alcohol Review Committee will serve as the Review Panel if an appeal hearing is warranted.
4. The student-athlete shall have the right to have an advisor of his or her own choosing present, although the advisor may act in an advisory capacity only and not in the presentation of the case. If an advisor will be present, the student-athlete must notify the Athletics Director, in writing, at least 48 hours before the appeal hearing.
5. Immediately after hearing the appeal, the Review Panel will hold a closed session for deliberation. At the conclusion of the deliberations, the student-athlete will be orally informed of the decision.

16. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- A. Upon arrival each academic year and/or reporting date, every student-athlete will be given a copy of the Texas A&M Athletics Department Substance Abuse & Education Policy. All student-athletes will participate in an orientation and review the policy. A question-and-answer session will be held with the Associate Athletics Director for Athletic Training, or designee, to assure understanding of the policy and how it will be administered. Student-athletes will acknowledge understanding and acceptance with a signed statement following the review and question and answer session.
- B. A positive test by the NCAA will be considered an offense against this policy. The positive test will count in accordance with Athletics Department policy; however, the student-athlete will not incur an additional penalty.
- C. Per the recommendation of the Texas A&M University's Student Conduct Office within the Student Community Standards Department, the Assistant Athletics Director for Counseling & Sport Psychology Services and/or designee may report violations to the Student Conduct Office in the event that a student-athlete violates the Texas A&M Athletics Department Substance Abuse and Education Policy in order to provide further education if needed.
- D. Sanctions will be implemented by the appropriate governing policy. Procedures will be implemented in accordance with the appropriate offense of this policy.
- E. Athletics Department coaches, and staff, or others employed by the Athletics Department who have knowledge of a student-athlete's use of a substance on the list of banned drugs, as set forth in NCAA Bylaw 31.2.3.4, shall promptly report that knowledge in detail to the Executive Associate Athletics Director of Compliance and Risk Management, or to the Texas A&M University System via its Ethics Point portal to implement the appropriate phase of this policy. Failure to report knowledge of this use may subject the staff member or other person employed by the Athletics Department to disciplinary action.
- F. Nothing contained in this Substance Abuse Policy shall prohibit the head coach of a student-athlete who has tested positive for any substance or prohibited drug from taking additional corrective or disciplinary action as he/she deems appropriate, including but not limited to, suspension or dismissal of the student-athlete from the team.
- G. Any change or deviation from this policy must be approved by the Athletics Director and/or designee.

APPENDIX A: DRUG TESTING THRESHOLD

The table below demonstrates Texas A&M's Positive Threshold for specific drug classes as of 08/01/24.

A. The Recreational Drugs Profile:

1. Amphetamine/Methamphetamine	100 ng/mL
2. Barbiturates	100 ng/mL
3. Cocaine/Crack	50 ng/mL
4. Marijuana	150 ng/mL
5. Opiates/Narcotics	50 ng/mL
6. Phencyclidine (PCP)	10 ng/mL
7. Benzodiazepines	100 ng/mL

Note: The testing panel completed by AEGIS Sciences Laboratories, Inc. will continue to include Cannabinoid results but in remaining congruent with NCAA procedures, any positive Cannabinoid test result indicated will not be deemed as "positive" for any disciplinary/sanction purposes. Rather, any positive result for a Cannabinoid will be noted for notification/education/treatment purposes only.

- B. Steroids are tested at known detectable levels using Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry (GCMS) or High-Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) analysis. Testosterone or any other substance which has the effect of manipulating testosterone levels will be considered positive based on a ratio of testosterone to epitestosterone in urine which is greater than 6:1. Additional testing for Estrogen blockers and isotope Ratio mass Spectrometry or other emerging technology may be used to confirm positive testosterone results.
- C. Specific compounds are tested at known detectable levels. Any single banned substance can be tested using GCMS or appropriate technology.

